

88 Press Releases were issued during 2011, as follows:

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TITLE:</u>
1/4/2011	Commission Openings
1/5/2011	Free Internet Technology Safety Presentation for Parents
1/7/2011	Mountain Lion Sighting
1/11/2011	Red Cross At Twin Pines
1/18/2011	Traffic Collision - Auto v. Pedestrian
1/24/2011	Commission Opening Reminder
1/25/2011	Hwy 101 Bridge Project Shutdown Reminder
1/31/2011	Commission Recruitment Extended
2/1/2011	Non-Injury Traffic Collision Knocks out Power
2/11/2011	Subway Sandwiches 1602 El Camino - Robbery
2/22/2011	Street Sweeping Schedule
3/10/2011	Owner Builder Workshop
3/14/2011	Commission Recruitment Extended
3/17/2011	School Custodian Arrested
3/17/2011	Pedestrian Decoy Operations
3/21/2011	Belmont CERT Participating in County-wide Emergency Exercise
3/22/2011	Pedestrian Decoy Operation in Belmont - Results
3/22/2011	Beautiful Belmont 2011
3/23/2011	Unlawful Sex with a Minor - Suspect Arrested
3/29/2011	2-Day Sober Graduation Event at NDHS
3/30/2011	Belmont CERT County-wide Emergency Exercise Follow-Up
4/1/2011	BPD Joins Effort to Crack down on Cell Phone Use and Texting
4/1/2011	Traffic Collision - Driver Arrested for DUI and Child Endangerment
4/11/2011	Burglary Suspect Arrested
4/15/2011	Kidnapping - Suspect in Custody
4/25/2011	PD Distracted Driving Enforcement April 26 & 27
5/10/2011	Theft From Vehicles
5/13/2011	April Distracted Driving Enforcement Campaign Results
5/18/2011	Carjacking UPDATE Suspect in Custody
5/18/2011	Suspicious Person Impersonating a City Employee
5/18/2011	Carjacking
5/20/2011	Vehicle Theft UPDATE
5/20/2011	2011 Click-It or Ticket
5/25/2011	Suspect Arrested in Stolen Car
5/26/2011	Thinking of Running for Office?
6/2/2011	Suspects Sought in Residential Burglary
6/3/2011	Update Residential Burglary
6/6/2011	Juveniles Arrested for School Burglary
6/21/2011	Doug Fry Named Interim Fire Chief for the New Belmont Fire Department

6/27/2011	Highway 101 Closure Reminder - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
6/28/2011	Highway 101 Closure Update - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
7/12/2011	Election Season Set to Begin
7/15/2011	Belmont Police Invites Residents To a Free Senior Fraud Prevention
7/15/2011	Workshop and Warn of "Grandson Scam" Targetting Seniors
7/18/2011	Three Arrested in Residential Burglary
7/19/2011	Three Arrested in Residential Burglary Update
7/22/2011	2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project
7/29/2011	Belmont Police Alert Residents Increase in Residential Burglaries
7/30/2011	Nighttime Residential Burglaries
8/5/2011	Hwy 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
8/9/2011	2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project
8/10/2011	City of Belmont Expands Access to Telephone Community Alert System
8/11/2011	Hwy 101 Closure
8/11/2011	Arrest in Recent Burlary Spree
8/12/2011	Ralston and Alameda de las Pulgas Pavement Striping
8/15/2011	Armed Robbery - Suspects In Custody
8/18/2011	Hwy 101 Closure - 8/22/2011
8/22/2011	Search Warrant - Burglary Investigation
8/30/2011	Suspect Arrested After Photographing Neighbor
9/6/2011	Mail Thief Arrested
9/12/2011	2011 California Coastal Clean-Up
9/12/2011	Candidate Write-In Information
9/28/2011	Belmont Fire Swearing-In
9/29/2011	Belmont's First In-House City Attorney
10/5/2011	Belmont Police & Fire Dept launch Belmont Public Safety Channel on YouTube
10/7/2011	BPOA MOU - No Pay Increase & New Lower Pension Tier
10/11/2011	Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest
10/12/2011	Bay Area Red Cross to Present New Disaster Mental Health Course in Belmont
10/14/2011	Officer Injured in Dog Attack
10/14/2011	Highway 101 Closure
10/17/2011	5th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program
10/18/2011	Highway 101 Closure - Cancelled Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
10/24/2011	Motel 6 Robbery
10/28/2011	Robbery Suspects Arrested
10/28/2011	Highway 101 Closure
10/31/2011	Traffic Collision - Auto-Pedestrian
11/7/2011	Fugitive Arrested After Foot Chase
11/8/2011	First Ever Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System Wednesday, November 9
11/14/2011	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Belmont's U.S. 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

11/15/2011	Theft Suspect Arrested
11/18/2011	Belmont police Lieutenant Receives Attorney General Award Recongning 28 Years of Service with The Belmont Police Department
11/28/2011	Suspicious Circumstances
12/5/2011	Fish and Game Deer Study
12/6/2011	City Hall Closure
12/6/2011	Traffic Collision Solo Vehicle Into Tree
12/12/2011	Fatal Traffic Collision
12/13/2011	Belmont Police to Conduct Pedestrian Safety Operation
12/14/2011	Woman Rescued after Elevator Accident

1/4/2011 Commission Openings

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont is currently recruiting residents interested in serving on various City Commissions, as well as seeking a new Belmont representative for the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District. The deadline to apply is 5:00 P.M. **Friday, January 28, 2011**, and the application is available on the City's website: www.belmont.gov under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

There are two openings on the **Planning Commission** for three-year terms. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, including design review, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are four openings for adult seats on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are one-year terms. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

There two openings on the **Finance Commission** for three-year terms. The Finance Commission meets bimonthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and participates in the budget review process, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy, and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms.

The City is also seeking a new representative to the **San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District**. Board members of this district represent the City of Belmont by assisting to make decisions that shape and mold our public health program for the citizens of our San Mateo County. The board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 28, 2011. Applicants must live in Belmont. Planning Commissioners and the representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District receive a stipend for their service, but there is no compensation for the other positions. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment. The current representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District is not seeking reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413.

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Distribution:

The Independent/Examiner

The San Mateo Times

The San Mateo Daily News

The San Mateo Daily Journal

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, Web

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2011

CONTACT:

Lt. Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

Belmont Police Offer

Free Internet Technology Safety Presentation for Parents

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department, as part of the Belmont Safe Schools Program, is presenting a free presentation for parents on Internet Technology Safety. The program is open to any parent, not just those living in Belmont. It should be noted that the information presented is geared for parents only and not intended for children.

The presentation will be on Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 7:00 pm in St. Michael's Hall, on the campus of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School at 1000 Alameda de las Pulgas, in Belmont. There is NO COST and Refreshments will be served. The speaker, Detective Wally Rosales of the Millbrae Police Department will cover topics such as:

- How children are victimized, why they are victimized, why kids don't tell and the social pressures online.
- Get a glimpse into the "Dark side of the Internet" and see first hand how children are being solicited for sex online.
- What happens to children in chat rooms and social networking sites.

###

1/7/2011 Mountain Lion Sighting

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Mt. Lion sighted near school campus**

Case #: 1012-00147

Location: Ralston Middle School – 2675 Ralston Avenue, Belmont

Date: 1/7/11 Time: 1006hrs

EVENT

This morning at approx. 10:05 AM, Belmont PD received a call over our Safe Schools radio system from Ralston Middle School, advising that a Mt. Lion had been seen near the athletic field and the students had been moved into the buildings as a precaution. Belmont Police and the California Department of Fish & Game responded to the school and conducted a search. No Mt. Lion or associated physical evidence was located.

The sole witness, a 6th grade student, was interviewed and indicated that he had been on the field during a physical education class and saw the Mt. Lion on the other side of the perimeter fence which borders the west side of the school property. Based on the boy's statement, Fish & Game believes that the animal appears to have been a juvenile Mt. Lion.

Classes resumed as normal approximates an hour later, however further outdoor activity on the fields was cancelled for today, again as a precautionary measure. The school notified parents of today's reported sighting.

More than half of California is mountain lion habitat. Mountain lions generally exist wherever deer are found. They are solitary and elusive, and their nature is to avoid humans. The California Department of Fish & Game provides tips on what to do if confronted by mountain lions or other threatening wild animals. More information regarding mountain lions can be found on the Department of Fish & Game website at (<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/news/issues/lion/>).

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 1/7/11 Time: 1400hrs

Date: 1/7/11 Time: 1400hrs

1/11/2011 Red Cross At Twin Pines

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2011

CONTACT: Laura Guluzzy, Recreation Coordinator (650) 637-2976

Email: lguluzzy@belmont.gov

Belmont Parks & Recreation Department

20 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

www.belmont.gov

"Enhancing the quality of life for the community"

Belmont, CA –

"Red Cross Shelter at Belmont's Twin Pines"

Belmont's Twin Pines Senior & Community Center was utilized as a Red Cross Shelter this morning. Residents from the apartment building fire at 2515 Carlmont Drive were transported to the Center in the early morning hours. Lieutenant Pat Halleran of the Belmont Police Department was in charge of the relocation efforts. Belmont Parks and Recreation Director, Jonathan Gervais was on hand to assist the Red Cross and other staff. SamTrans provided transportation for displaced residents, both to and from the Center. Many apartment residents were allowed to return to their units to collect some of their personal belongings, once the Fire department determined it was safe to enter. Lunch was provided at the Center for the apartment residents by the Red Cross, and all were assisted in finding temporary lodging. The Twin Pines Senior & Community Center is a designated emergency shelter for the City of Belmont. Call: (650) 595-7444 for more information.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily News/Palo Alto Daily News

The San Mateo Daily Journal

Foster City Islander

Bay Daily Post

Belmont Patch

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners,

Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

1/18/2011 Traffic Collision - Auto v. Pedestrian

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Traffic Collision – Auto v. Pedestrian Case #: 1101-0100
Location: Harbor Blvd & Old County Rd, Belmont Date: 1/18/11 Time: 1048hrs

EVENT

On Tuesday, January 18, 2011 @ approx. 1045hrs, Belmont Police and Belmont-San Carlos Fire responded to the intersection of Harbor Blvd & Old County Rd, on a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle.

Upon arrival, officers found a woman down in the west-bound lanes of Harbor Blvd, between Old County Rd & El Camino Real. The victim, Mei Song, age 70 of Half Moon Bay, was crossing Harbor Blvd S/B in the crosswalk on the west side of the intersection, when she was struck by a FedEx delivery truck that was turning onto W/B Harbor Blvd from N/B Old County Rd.

Song was treated at the scene by paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non life threatening injuries. Harbor Blvd between El Camino & Elmer St was closed for approx. 35min during the investigation of the collision. The cause of the collision is pending completion of the investigation.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 1/18/11 Time: 1215hrs

Authorized By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 1/18/11 Time: 1215hrs

1/24/2011 Commission Opening Reminder

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

Belmont, CA -- The deadline is fast approaching for application to one of Belmont's commissions. There are two openings on the **Planning Commission** for three-year terms. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, including design review, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are four openings for adult seats on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are one-year terms. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

There two openings on the **Finance Commission** for three-year terms. The Finance Commission meets bimonthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and participates in the budget review process, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy, and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms.

The City is also seeking a new representative to the **San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District**. Board members of this district represent the City of Belmont by assisting to make decisions that shape and mold our public health program for the citizens of our San Mateo County. The board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 28, 2011. Applicants must live in Belmont.

Planning Commissioners and the representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District receive a stipend for their service, but there is no compensation for the other positions. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment. The current representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District is not seeking reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413.

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The San Mateo Times

The San Mateo Daily News

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Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, Web

1/25/2011 Hwy 101 Bridge Project Shutdown Reminder

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 25, 2011

CONTACT: Lt. Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**REMINDER TO THE MOTORING PUBLIC
HWY 101 TO EXPERIENCE LATE NIGHT SHUT-DOWNS THIS WEEK
AS PART OF BELMONT BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department would like to remind the motoring public of two planned shut-downs of the Hwy 101 freeway, in Belmont, this week. The shut-downs are required so construction crews can install steel I-beam supports for the bicycle/pedestrian bridge. Once completed the bridge will join the west side of the freeway with the Belmont Sports Complex and the San Francisco Bay Trail.

The shutdowns will occur on consecutive nights and will affect the freeway between Ralston Avenue and Hillsdale Blvd.

- The first shut-down will occur tomorrow morning, Wednesday, January, 26th from 12:30AM and 4:00AM and will affect all N/B lanes of Hwy 101. N/B 101 traffic will be diverted onto Ralston Ave and directed west to El Camino Real and north to Hillsdale Blvd.
- The second shut-down will occur on Thursday, January 27th from 1:00AM to 4:30AM and will affect all S/B lanes of Hwy 101. S/B 101 traffic will be diverted onto Hillsdale Blvd and directed west to El Camino Real and south to Ralston Ave.

Night-time construction on the bridge project will occur all week, but full shut-downs are only required on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

#

NEWS

Immediate Release

January 31, 2011

Commission Recruitment Extended

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont has extended the deadline for applicants for its three commissions, as well as Belmont's representative to the San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District. The purpose of the extension is to create a larger pool of candidates for the City Council's consideration. The new deadline to apply is **5:00 P.M. Friday, February 4, 2011**, and the application is available on the City's website: www.belmont.gov under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

There are two openings on the **Planning Commission** for three-year terms, and one vacant position due to a recent resignation. This term has one year remaining. One incumbent for one of the full term seats has not reapplied, and the other one has. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, including design review, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are four openings for adult seats on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas. All four incumbents have reapplied.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are one-year terms. Youth members are

full voting members of the Commission. One of the two incumbents has reapplied

There two openings on the **Finance Commission** for three-year terms. The Finance Commission meets bimonthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and participates in the budget review process, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy, and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms. Neither of the incumbents has reapplied.

The City is also seeking a new representative to the **San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District**. Board members of this district represent the City of Belmont by assisting to make decisions that shape and mold our public health program for the citizens of our San Mateo County. The board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, February 4, 2011. Applicants must live in Belmont. Planning Commissioners and the representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District receive a stipend for their service, but there is no compensation for the other positions. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment. The current representative to the Mosquito and Vector Control District is not seeking reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413.

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Distribution:

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Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, Web

2/1/2011 Non-Injury Traffic Collision Knocks out Power

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Non-Injury Traffic Collision Knocks out Power**
0002

Case #: 1102-

Location: 2000 Blk Mezes Ave, Belmont

Date: 2/1/11 Time: 0845hrs

EVENT

A pick-up truck collided with a utility pole this morning, knocking out electrical service to a Belmont neighborhood. There were no injuries, but approx. 200 customers lost power as a result of the collision. The cause of the collision is under investigation, but the following is known at this time.

At approx. 8:45am, a Chevrolet pick-up driven by a 17-year old Belmont youth, was westbound in the 2000 block of Mezes Ave, when the vehicle collided with a utility pole. The pole broke in half as a result of the impact, bringing down live power lines onto the street. Belmont Police, Belmont-San Carlos Fire and PG&E crews responded to the scene and secured the lines. The driver was not injured and no other vehicles were involved.

PG&E crews will be working throughout the day to erect a new utility pole and restore service to the neighborhood. It is anticipated that electrical service will be restored by this evening.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 2/1/11 Time: 1500hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 2/1/11 Time: 1500hrs

2/11/2011 Subway Sandwiches 1602 El Camino – Robbery

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Robbery

Case #: 1102-0060

Location: Subway Sandwiches-1602 El Camino Real, Belmont Date: 02/10/11 Time: 8:40PM

EVENT

On 2/10/11 at approximately 8:40 PM, Belmont PD officers responded to the Subway Sandwich Shop located at 1602 El Camino Real on a report of a robbery that had just occurred. Though the investigation is on going, the following is known at this time.

Two male subjects entered the shop and confronted the lone employee. The men demanded cash and an undetermined amount of cash was taken from the register. The subjects were last seen leaving the area on foot.

An extensive area check for the subjects was conducted with negative results.

Suspect Description:

Suspect #1-was described as a white male, 18-25 years of age, approximately 5'10"-6'00" tall, 160-185 lbs, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, black gloves, and blue jeans.

Suspect #2-was described as a white male, 18-25 years of age, approximately 5'10"-6'00" tall, 160-185 lbs, wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, a dark colored beanie or ski mask, and khaki or light denim pants.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650)595-7400.

By: Sgt. R. Digneo
Date: 02/10/11 Time: 2300 hrs.
Authorized By: Sgt. R. Digneo
Date: 02/10/11 Time: 2300 hrs.

2/22/2011 Street Sweeping Schedule

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 18, 2011

CONTACT: Diane Lynn (650) 595-7425

Email: dlynn@belmont.gov

Department of Public Works

One Twin Pines Lane, STE 385 Belmont, CA 94002

www.belmont.gov

Press Release

Important Information Regarding Your Street Sweeping Schedule

Due to the new Recology garbage collection schedule and Belmont's street sweeping schedule, there was an overlap in service. The Public Works Maintenance Department reviewed the schedules and found a conflict in two areas. The City has modified the street sweeping schedule to accommodate our residents.

Effective March 01, 2011, the new sweeping days will only change for the following areas:

Original sweeping day New sweeping day

Tuesday Wednesday

Wednesday Tuesday

Bi-Weekly street sweeping occurs between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday) on specified residential roadways. The updated street sweeping map and notice will be mailed in your next garbage bill with the neighborhoods and scheduled dates. You may also visit our website at www.belmont.gov to view your neighborhoods' designated time frame.

For more information, you may contact the **Public Works Department at 650-595-7425**

3/10/2011 Owner Builder Workshop

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2011

CONTACT: Mark Nolfi, Building Official (650) 595-7450

Community Development Department

Belmont, CA –

Owner-Builder Workshop

On Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 6:30 PM the Community Development Department will be hosting an **Owner-Builder Workshop** on the 2nd floor of City Hall, in the EOC room. Topics will include Design Review, Floor Area Ratios, Parking Requirements, Building Permit Submittal, Inspections, Green Building Practices, and new to this seminar, the state green building code, CALGreen. While not a “how-to- build” seminar, this event is for any owner contemplating an addition or alteration construction project. For registration, please contact Kelsey Mathias at (650) 595-7422 or kmathias@belmont.gov. Space is limited. Refreshments will be served.

#

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Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

3/14/2011 Commission Recruitment Extended

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Commission Recruitment Extended

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont has extended the application process in order to fill an open position on its Finance Commission. At its regular meeting of March 8th, the City Council appointed the one applicant it had for the Commission, but one vacant position still exists for a three-year term expiring in 2014. In addition, a recent resignation has caused an additional vacancy, with two years remaining on that position. The new deadline to apply is 5:00 P.M. Friday, **April 29th, 2011**, and the application is available on the City's website: www.belmont.gov under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

The Finance Commission meets bimonthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m., and participates in the budget review process, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms. It occasionally holds special or additional meetings on an as-needed basis. Candidates with a finance background and experience are especially encouraged to apply.

To apply for either position and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, April 29, 2011. Applicants must live in Belmont.

For more information on the application process, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413. For information regarding the work of the Finance Commission itself, please contact Thomas Fil, Finance Director, at (650) 595-7435.

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3/17/2011 School Custodian Arrested

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: School Custodian Arrested

Case #: 1011-0078

Suspect: Andre Edwards, 52 yrs Hayward CA

Location: Ralston Middle School

Date: 03/17/11

Time: 3:30 PM

EVENT

Belmont PD investigators arrested Andre Edwards of Hayward on a \$200,000 warrant citing two felony counts of 288A PC (Annoying/Molesting a Child). Investigators completed a thorough investigation following an allegation that the Ralston Middle School custodian groped a female student on campus in November of last year. That investigation eventually uncovered additional information on a previously unsubstantiated allegation from 2001, which resulted in the second count.

During the investigation Edwards separated employment from the School District and is no longer associated with the school. The results of the four month long investigation were turned over to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office and an arrest warrant was issued yesterday.

Edwards was arrested today at his Hayward home without incident, and will be booked into Jail.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650) 595-7400 or the Crime Tip Line at (650) 598-3000.

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 03/17/11 Time: 1600 hrs.

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei
Date: 03/17/11 Time: 1600 hrs.

3/17/2011 Pedestrian Decoy Operations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2011

CONTACT

Sergeant Mike Braké 650-595-7400

Pedestrian Decoy Operation to be Held in Belmont

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department, in cooperation with, Millbrae, Burlingame, Foster City, San Mateo Police Departments, the San Mateo County Sheriff's San Carlos Police Bureau & the California Highway Patrol will be conducting a joint Pedestrian Decoy Operation on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in the City of Belmont. The Belmont operation will be conducted between 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM at several intersections in Belmont.

Police personnel in plain clothes will be used to cross the roadways in marked crosswalks, while motorcycle officers will watch for pedestrian right of way violations. Motorists failing to yield the right of way to the pedestrian will be stopped and may be issued a citation under section 21950 of the California Vehicle Code.

"Our goal is to raise drivers' awareness of their responsibility to stop for pedestrians in marked crosswalks," explained Sergeant Mike Braké of the Belmont Police Department. "This is an opportunity to educate the motoring public on pedestrian right of way and related traffic laws", continued Sgt. Braké.

The departments will carry out enforcement of pedestrian right of way violations on a continuous basis and will continue to work together on future pedestrian decoy events in their respective cities.

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

Belmont Community Emergency Response Teams Participating in County-Wide Emergency Exercise

Belmont, CA --

On Thursday March, 24, 2011 from 9 a.m. until noon, members of the Belmont-San Carlos Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will be participating in the San Mateo County Health System's "Silver Dragon V" emergency drill. CERT members will be going door-to-door in the Sterling Downs and Central Neighborhoods, in Belmont delivering kitchen fire safety information, to simulate the distribution of medicine and medical supplies from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Strategic National Stockpile. The medicine and/or supplies would be distributed through the San Mateo County Health System, in the event of a major health emergency. CERT team members will be wearing green helmets or caps and green reflective vests.

Belmont-San Carlos CERT members will be joined by CERT members from the Redwood City Fire Department and Volunteers from both the Belmont and Redwood City Police Departments.

"The recent tragic events in Japan reinforce our need to be ready, as a community, to respond in times of disaster". Both Fire Chief Doug Fry and I strongly believe that community-government partnerships like CERT are vital parts of disaster preparedness", said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "This exercise also shows how the various emergency services in San Mateo County work together on a daily basis", Chief Mattei added.

Belmont-San Carlos CERT was formed in 2002 to give local residents the skills to help themselves and their neighbors in times of disaster or other emergency. As of 2010, over 500 community members have been through the basic 20-hour CERT course. In addition, CERT classes have been taught to Belmont city employees and staff at Notre Dame de Namur University.

#

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2011

CONTACT

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran 650-595-7430

Pedestrian Decoy Operation in Belmont - Results

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department, in cooperation with, Millbrae, Burlingame, Foster City, San Mateo Police Departments and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office held a joint Pedestrian Decoy Operation on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in the City of Belmont from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM at five (5) locations in Belmont; El Camino Real & 5th Ave, El Camino Real & Ruth Ave, Ralston Ave & Elmer St, Ralston Ave & Maywood Dr and Ralston Ave & Villa Ave.

The goal of the operation was to raise driver awareness of pedestrians. Five (5) plain clothes "decoys", all personnel from the involved agencies, crossed at intersections, in marked crosswalks. "Our goal is to raise drivers' awareness of their responsibility to stop for pedestrians in marked crosswalks", said Belmont Police Sergeant Braké, who was in charge of the operation.

In all, officers made 93 enforcement stops and issued 77 citations for pedestrian right of way violations. There was one traffic collision during the operation, at Ralston Ave & Villa Ave, when a driver, who had stopped for a pedestrian, who had not yet stepped off the curb, was rear ended by another vehicle. "That driver was following too closely and told officers he assumed that the vehicle in front of him would keep going" said Sergeant Brake'. "The driver who stopped did the right thing", "This shows how important it is for drivers to be alert and maintain a safe stopping distance", Sergeant Brake' added.

Since 2007, the City of Belmont has averaged three (3) auto-pedestrian collisions per year, all of which resulted in minor to moderate injuries. According to the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), pedestrians represent 18% of all traffic related fatalities and almost 5% of all traffic related injuries. In 2008 almost 650 pedestrians were killed in California and over 13,000 were injured, according to OTS.

#

3/22/2011 Beautiful Belmont 2011

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2011

CONTACT: Joni Stallings – (650) 595-7408

4th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program

Belmont, CA - The City of Belmont City Council proudly announces the 4th Annual presentation of the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 22nd at 7:30 PM. The City congratulates the 2011 Award recipients in the following categories – for **Commercial** the Godfather's Burger Lounge renovation and for **Residential** the newly constructed home at 900 South Road.

This recognition program is designed to acknowledge individuals, businesses, and community groups who have enhanced the City's community by making significant exterior improvements to their Belmont properties. Eligible improvements include the enhancement, upgrading, reconstruction, or replacement of a property, making it more visually appealing as well as enriching the surrounding neighborhood or district.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This program is an excellent opportunity to let the community know how much the City appreciates their effort to help make Belmont one of the most beautiful communities on the Peninsula."

For more information on the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program, or to obtain a nomination form, please call the City Manager's office at 595-7408 or look on the City of Belmont website at www.belmont.gov.

#

Distribution:

The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber of Commerce, SMT, PIC, Neighborhood Associations, web

3/23/2011 Unlawful Sex with a Minor - Suspect Arrested

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Unlawful Sex with a Minor – Suspect Arrested** Case #: 1101-0039

Location: Belmont
1330hrs

Date: 3/23/11 Time:

EVENT

On Wednesday, March 22nd at approx 8:25 PM, a 21 year old Redwood City man was arrested at his place of employment in Menlo Park, on multiple charges resulting from a sexual encounter he had with a 13 yr old Belmont girl. The suspect, Armando Lopez-Galvez, was taken into custody without incident and was booked into the San Mateo County Jail.

The investigation began in January, when Belmont Police were notified that the 13 year old victim was in several "online dating" relationships with male adults. The name of the victim is being withheld due to her age. The victim subsequently had a sexual encounter with Lopez-Galvez, whom she met on-line.

Following a three month investigation by Belmont Police Detectives, the case was submitted to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office and an arrest warrant was subsequently issued for Lopez-Galvez, on multiple charges including unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor.

The Belmont Police Department would like to remind parents to be aware of their children's on-line activities and that parents can minimize the chances of their child becoming a victim. Children, especially adolescents, are sometimes interested in and curious about sexuality and sexually explicit material. Here are some steps parents can take to help protect their children:

- Communicate, and talk to your child about sexual victimization and potential on-line danger. Spend time with your children on-line. Have them teach you about their favorite on-line destinations.
- Keep the computer in a common room in the house, not in your child's bedroom. It is much more difficult for a computer-sex offender to communicate with a child when the computer screen is visible to a parent or another member of the household.
- Utilize parental controls provided by your service provider and/or blocking software. While electronic chat can be a great place for children to make new friends and discuss various topics of interest, it is also prowled by computer-sex offenders.
- Use of chat rooms, in particular, should be heavily monitored. While parents should utilize these mechanisms, they should not totally rely on them. Always maintain access to your child's on-line account and randomly check his/her e-mail.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 3/23/11 Time: 1330hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 3/23/11 Time: 1330hrs

3/29/2011 2-Day Sober Graduation Event at NDHS

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**BELMONT POLICE TO HOLD 2-DAY SOBER GRADUATION EVENT AT
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department, in cooperation with the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department, American Medical Response and the San Mateo County Coroner's Office, will be conducting a two-day "Sober Graduation" program on Thursday, March 31st and Friday, April 1, 2011 at Notre Dame High School in Belmont. The program is designed to raise the awareness of teens to the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or other controlled substances. A major part of the program is a simulation of an alcohol-related accident scene, which will occur in the front parking lot of Notre Dame High at approximately 1:00 PM, on Thursday, March 31st.

The simulated collision will include an emergency response to the school by Police, Fire and EMS personnel. Student participants, with simulated injuries, will be treated by rescue personnel and the Coroner will handle simulated fatalities. Police Officers will investigate and arrest the student "drunk driver". The student "drunk driver" will then be taken to the Belmont Police Department to be "booked for drunk driving". At the end of the day, those students who participated in the staged accident will be transported to a local hotel for an overnight student retreat. The retreat will simulate the separation from friends and family. A support staff of counselors, trained volunteers and police officers will facilitate the retreat.

On the following morning, an assembly will be hosted by project coordinators, who will guide the audience through the devastating effects of losing a loved one due to a bad choice.

"In most cases, important life lessons are learned through experience. However, when the audience is teens and the topic is drinking and driving, experience is not the teacher of choice," said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "This event designed to dramatically demonstrate potential dangers and consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs." "We hope that this powerful program will challenge the students to think about drinking, using drugs, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved," Chief Mattei added.

#

3/30/2011 Belmont CERT County-wide Emergency Exercise Follow-Up

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

***Belmont Community Emergency Response Teams
Brave Winter Storm to Participate in County-Wide Emergency Exercise***

Belmont, CA --

On Thursday March, 24, 2011, members of the Belmont-San Carlos Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) participated in the San Mateo County Health System's "Silver Dragon V" emergency exercise. In spite of a strong winter storm that blew into Belmont, CERT members went door-to-door in the Sterling Downs, Homeview and Central Neighborhoods, delivering kitchen fire safety information to simulate the distribution of medicine and medical supplies. The medicine and/or supplies, from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Strategic National Stockpile, would be distributed through the San Mateo County Health System in the event of a major health emergency.

Belmont-San Carlos CERT members were joined by CERT members from the Redwood City Fire Department and Volunteers from both the Belmont and Redwood City Police Departments. They were supported by members of the South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, who provided communication via amateur radio.

The exercise began at 8:30AM and concluded at 11:30AM, with teams visiting a total of over 800 residences in the three neighborhoods. 52 volunteers took part in the 3 hour exercise.

"To have 52 people take time out of their day to participate in this exercise, in spite of the weather, was extraordinary." "Both Fire Chief Doug Fry and I are extremely proud of our residents and encourage this type of community involvement" said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "This exercise also shows, with the proper training, how regular people can support their neighbors." "When disaster strikes our community, programs like CERT will be invaluable," Chief Mattei added.

Belmont-San Carlos CERT was formed in 2002 to give local residents the skills to help themselves and their neighbors in times of disaster or other emergency. As of 2010, over 500 community members have been through the basic 20-hour CERT course. In addition, CERT classes have been taught to Belmont city employees and staff at Notre Dame de Namur University.

###

4/1/2011 BPD Joins Effort to Crack down on Cell Phone Use and Texting



DISTRACTED DRIVING MONTH PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: April 1, 2011

CONTACTS: Belmont Police Lt. Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430 path@belmont.gov
CHP PIO Sgt. Trenton Cross & Ofc. Mary Ziegenbein (707) 648-4180
TCross@chp.ca.gov; MZiegenbein@chp.ca.gov;

Belmont Police Department Joins Effort to Crack Down on Cell Phone Use and Texting

Texting and Driving Will Cost You: First Ticket Minimum \$159

Belmont, CA – How often do you see drivers texting or talking with hand-held cell phones and wish they would be stopped and cited? As part of California's first *Distracted Driving Awareness Month* in April, law enforcement in the Bay Area will be holding zero tolerance days for cell phone use and texting. A ticket for violating either the hands free or no texting law costs a minimum of \$159, and subsequent tickets cost as much as \$279.

Distracted driving is a serious traffic safety concern that puts everyone on the road at risk, joining speeding and alcohol as leading factors in fatal and serious injury crashes. As a result, law enforcement agencies across the state, including the Belmont Police Department are increasingly cracking down on cell phone use and texting. Starting April 4th and throughout the month, Belmont PD will join over 225 local agencies plus 103 CHP Area Commands conducting zero tolerance enforcements.

"We take the issue of distracted driving very seriously." "Cell phone use and texting while driving is such a serious concern that we are putting officers on the road to enforce zero tolerance." said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. This stepped up enforcement follows a multi-agency pedestrian decoy operation held in Belmont in March. "Distracted drivers pose a particular hazard to pedestrians and we see this as a natural follow-up to that operation and our on-going traffic safety efforts" Chief Mattei added.

Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes. In addition, studies show that texting while driving can delay a driver's reaction time just as severely as having a blood alcohol content of a legally drunk driver.

"We recognize that convincing drivers to refrain from using cell phones or texting while driving isn't easy," said Office of Traffic Safety Director Christopher J. Murphy. "It's very difficult to resist the urge to check an incoming text or answer a cell phone call. That's why we are stepping up enforcement and public awareness efforts. Convincing California drivers to wear seat belts 20 years ago wasn't easy either, but in 2010 more than 96 percent buckled up and thousands of lives were saved."

(More)



Studies show that there is no difference in the risks between hands-free and hand-held cell phone conversations, both of which can result in "inattention blindness" which occurs when the brain isn't seeing what is clearly visible because the drivers' focus is on the phone conversation and not on the road.

There are simple measures drivers can take to minimize distractions in the vehicle:

- Turn your phone off or put it out of reach before starting the car.
- Alert callers that you are unable to take calls when driving by changing your voicemail message.
- Make it a point not to call or text anyone who may be driving, such as during the commute to and from work or school, especially parents calling teen drivers.
- If you do need to make an important call or respond to a text message, pull over to a safe place to do so.
- If going cold turkey is too much of a stretch and you just can't turn your phone off, consider using one of the available mobile phone apps that holds calls and incoming texts.

"We just want drivers to use some common sense when they're behind the wheel and focus on driving," said Murphy. "Think about the vast majority of calls and texts you send or receive everyday. Were any really worth a \$159 ticket – or worse, a crash, injury or death? It's just not worth it."

MEDIA NOTES: To schedule an interview regarding Distracted Driving and programs in California please contact Chris Cochran, California Office of Traffic Safety at (916) 509-3063 or via email at ccochran@ots.ca.gov.

###

4/1/2011

Traffic Collision - Driver Arrested for DUI and Child Endangerment

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Traffic Collision – Driver Arrested for DUI and Child Endangerment**

Case #: 1103-0197

Location: S/B El Camino @ Harbor Blvd, Belmont

Date: 3/31/11

Time: 1612hrs

EVENT

On Thursday, March 31, 2011 @ approx. 4:10PM, Belmont Police and Belmont-San Carlos Fire responded to a traffic collision with injuries on El Camino Real at Harbor Blvd. Upon arrival, officers found that a 2009 BMW sedan had been rear-ended by a 2002 Mazda Protégé, driven by Alla Hajiyena, age 55, of Redwood City.

Hajiyeva's five year old granddaughter, who had been riding in Hajiyeva's car, was treated at the scene by paramedics and transported to a local hospital with non life threatening injuries. The driver of the BMW, a 60 yr old Belmont woman, was also treated at the scene by paramedics and was also transported to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Hajiyena, who was not injured in the collision, was arrested at the scene for DUI resulting in injury and child endangerment, both felonies. Hajiyena was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City.

###

4/11/2011 Burglary Suspect Arrested

Type of Incident: **Burglary Suspect Arrested**

Case #: 1104-0047

Location: Yaseen Foundation, 621 Masonic Way, Belmont

Date: 4/9/11 Time: 0042hrs

EVENT

On Saturday, April 9, 2011 at approx. 12:45AM, a suspect wanted in a recent string of repeat burglaries, which had occurred at the same location, was stopped by an alert Belmont Police Officer on routine patrol. The suspect, Jaouad Bouamama a 28 year old transient, was contacted by Ofc. Milana Jordan at the intersection of Old County Rd & MasonicWay and taken into custody without incident.

The series of burglaries, five in total, all occurred at the Yaseen Foundation, a Muslim community center located at 621 Masonic Way. The center was first burglarized on March 25th and the burglaries continued through March and into April. Bouamama became the focus of the investigation, after evidence at the scene linked him to the burglaries. In each instance, Bouamama would enter the building take money from donation boxes. While the total amount taken over the course of the five burglaries is unknown, it could be in excess of one thousand dollars. Investigators determined that Bouamama was stopped by Ofc. Jordan just after having burglarized the center for his fifth and final time.

As of this press release, Bouamama remains in custody at the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 4/11/11 Time: 1100hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 4/11/11 Time: 1100hrs

4/15/2011 Kidnapping - Suspect in Custody

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Kidnapping – Suspect in Custody Case #: 1104-0087
Suspect: Christopher McCalister, 22 yrs

Location: Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont Date: 04/15/11 Time: 10:30 AM

EVENT

Belmont PD Detectives are working with Sunnyvale DPS to investigate an alleged kidnapping which began at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont very late last night or early this morning. The victim is a female NDNU student who is now safe and secure. The suspect (Christopher McCalister) is in police custody. This investigation is ongoing, but the following is known at this time:

The suspect and the student had a previous dating relationship. Late last night or early this morning, the suspect threatened the victim and forced her to leave her apartment on the NDNU campus with him. A second man drove them to Motel 6 in Sunnyvale. Fearing for her safety, the victim agreed to go with the suspect. The victim later sent text messages from the Motel to friends and family claiming that she was being held against her will. The Police were notified and the victim was discovered in a room with the suspect. The suspect was taken into custody immediately. He is currently being held on an unrelated Domestic Violence warrant and Probation Violations out of Santa Clara County. Belmont PD investigators will forward their findings to the San Mateo County District Attorney for review at the conclusion of their investigation.

Police are still searching for the driver of the car. He is considered a person of interest:

Possible Name: "Vic"

Alias: "Chewy"

Hispanic Male

20's

Dark Hair

Possible Residence: East Palo Alto

Vehicle: Grey Pontiac Grand Prix

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650)595-7400.

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt

Date: 04/15/11 Time: 1700 hrs.

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei

Date: 04/15/11 Time: 1730 hrs.

4/25/2011 PD Distracted Driving Enforcement April 26 & 27

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 25, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
650-595-7430
path@belmont.gov

Belmont Police To Hold 'Zero Tolerance' Distracted Driving Enforcement Operations this week

Belmont, CA – As part of this month's *Distracted Driving Awareness Month* campaign, Belmont Police will be offering "zero tolerance" to those texting or operating hand-held cell phones on April 26-27. Drivers who break the law and place themselves and others in danger will be cited. The current minimum ticket cost is \$159, with subsequent tickets costing at least \$279.

Distracted driving is a serious traffic safety concern that puts everyone on the road at risk. As a result, law enforcement across the state, including Belmont Police are increasingly cracking down on cell phone use and texting. During April over 225 local law enforcement agencies, plus the 103 CHP Area Commands are conducting zero tolerance enforcements.

In addition to the overall stepped up enforcement during this campaign, Belmont PD will be deploying traffic officers who will be specifically assigned to focus on distracted driving enforcement on the following dates:

Tuesday, April 26th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Wednesday, April 27th from 8:00 PM to 5:00 PM

"We take the issue of distracted driving very seriously," said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Cell phone use and texting while driving is such a serious concern that we are putting officers on the road to enforce zero tolerance. Is that text message or cell phone call really worth \$159?"

Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes. In addition, studies show that texting while driving can delay a driver's reaction time just as severely as having a blood alcohol content of a legally drunk driver.

Studies show that there is no difference in the risks between hands-free and hand-held cell phone conversations, both of which can result in "inattention blindness" which occurs when the brain isn't seeing what is clearly visible because the drivers' focus is on the phone conversation and not on the road.

###

5/10/2011 Theft From Vehicles

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Theft from Vehicles

Case #: 1105-0055

Location: Hillcrest Drive, Belmont

Date: 5/10/2011

Time: 0400 hours

EVENT

During the early morning hours of 5/10/2011, Belmont Police were dispatched to the 3500 block of Hillcrest Drive. A citizen reported that (2) suspects were seen entering his unlocked vehicle which was parked in his driveway. While Officers were checking the area, they noticed a vehicle fleeing the scene. The vehicle failed to yield to the Belmont Patrol Unit and a short pursuit ensued into a residential neighborhood in San Carlos. The pursuit ended when the suspect lost control of his vehicle, and collided into the front yard of a residence.

Driver Travis Castellanos (21 yrs of Montera) and passenger Danielle Gonzalez (19 yrs of Pacifica) were apprehended at the conclusion of the pursuit. They were both transported to a local hospital where they were treated for minor injuries. Nobody else was injured. Both suspects are currently being booked into the San Mateo County Jail where they are being held for violating Parole and Probation terms, pending further investigation into charges related to Evading Police, Possessing Stolen Property, Theft and Criminal Conspiracy.

This event is currently under investigation by the Belmont Police Department, and several additional thefts from vehicles have already been discovered in Western Belmont this morning. Anyone reporting a theft from a vehicle or any additional information is asked to call the Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400.

By: Cpl. Peter Lotti

Date: 5/10/11

Time: 0900 hrs

Authorized By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt

Date: 5/10/11

Time: 0945 hrs

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2011

CONTACT:

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**FINAL NUMBERS IN FOR BELMONT PD'S
APRIL DISTRACTED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN**

Belmont, CA --

During the month of April, 2011, the Belmont Police Department joined over 286 local agencies plus 103 CHP Area Commands conducting zero tolerance enforcements during the first state-wide Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign.

In all, Belmont PD Officers issued 99 citations for distracted driving during the campaign:

- 78 Cell Phone Citations
- 16 Texting Citations
- 5 Other Distracted Driving Citations* (**Other Distracted Driving citations would be Speeding, weaving or impeding traffic, where the driver was distracted by grooming, eating, electronics, etc...*)

In addition, cell phone stops led to the arrest of two drivers. One driver was arrested for driving on a suspended driver's license and outstanding warrants and another driver was arrested for possession of narcotics.

"Drivers who use handheld devices while driving are four times more likely to be involved in a traffic collision. Distracted driving has become the leading cause of traffic deaths for teenage drivers," said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "We hope that our participation in this important traffic safety campaign, and the associated media coverage, got the message out to drivers that distracted driving is a serious problem and they should resist the urge to check an incoming text or answer a cell phone call while driving." Mattei added.

5/18/2011 Carjacking UPDATE Suspect in Custody

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Carjacking

Case #: 1105-0103

Location: 1250 El Camino Real, Belmont

Date: 5/17/11 **Time:** 9:00 PM

EVENT:

This evening Belmont Police officers were called to the parking lot behind Toto's Pizza restaurant at 1250 El Camino Real on the report of a carjacking that had just occurred. Though this investigation is ongoing, the following is known at this time:

The suspect, described as a black male, approximately 30 years old, about 5'7" tall, 180 lbs, with short black hair, no facial hair, and wearing a black windbreaker jacket and blue jeans, entered the victim's car while she was parked in the Toto's parking lot. He demanded the keys and pushed her out of the car. The victim was able to remove her 5 year old child from the back seat before the suspect drove away. He was last seen driving east on Waltermire toward El Camino Rl.

With the assistance of surrounding law enforcement agencies, officers scoured the area, but have not yet located the suspect.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650) 595-7400.

By: Sgt. Tony Psaila

Date: 5/17/11 Time: 1130 pm

5/18/2011 Suspicious Person Impersonating a City Employee

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Suspicious Person Impersonating City Employee**

Case #: 1105-0101

Location: 1700 blk Chula Vista Dr, Belmont

Date: 5/17/11

Time: 1449hrs

EVENT

On 05/17/11 @ approx. 2:45 PM, an unknown suspect knocked on the door of a residence in the 1700 blk of Chula Vista Drive in Belmont and verbally identified himself as a City of Belmont employee. The suspect told the female resident who answered the door that he was working on the neighbor's sewer line and needed to get into her back yard to check on something. The resident initially allowed him to access the yard, but after thinking about it she decided to ask him for a badge or identification. When confronted the subject told the resident that he was going to his vehicle to get his identification but then quickly drove off in dark red or burgundy van.

The suspect is described as a white male in his early 30's, with a medium build approx. 5'5" tall and weighing approx. 170lbs. The suspect was wearing a yellow hard hat, dark blue long sleeve shirt and dark pants. The suspect was driving a dark red or burgundy van (no further details on the van).

At this time we do not know what the suspect was intending to do, but it is possible he was casing the neighborhood for a burglary or other crime.

We would like to remind the public that typically, City Public Works employees and utility maintenance workers wear uniforms, but all city employees & utility workers carry identification for the City or utility they work for. Don't be afraid to ask someone claiming to be with the City or a utility, for their identification. If you have any question at all about the identity of someone who comes to your door, call your local law enforcement agency immediately.

Anyone with information on this incident or the suspect & vehicle described in this press release are asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 5/18/11 Time: 1145hrs

Authorized By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 5/18/11 Time: 1145hrs

5/18/2011 Carjacking

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Carjacking

Case #: 1105-0103

Location: 1250 El Camino Real, Belmont

Date: 5/17/11 **Time:** 9:00 PM

EVENT:

This evening Belmont Police officers were called to the parking lot behind Toto's Pizza restaurant at 1250 El Camino Real on the report of a carjacking that had just occurred. Though this investigation is ongoing, the following is known at this time:

The suspect, described as a black male, approximately 30 years old, about 5'7" tall, 180 lbs, with short black hair, no facial hair, and wearing a black windbreaker jacket and blue jeans, entered the victim's car while she was parked in the Toto's parking lot. He demanded the keys and pushed her out of the car. The victim was able to remove her 5 year old child from the back seat before the suspect drove away. He was last seen driving east on Waltermire toward El Camino RI.

With the assistance of surrounding law enforcement agencies, officers scoured the area, but have not yet located the suspect.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650) 595-7400.

By: Sgt. Tony Psaila

Date: 5/17/11 Time: 1130 pm

5/20/2011 Vehicle Theft UPDATE

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Theft from Vehicles - Update**

Case #: 1105-0055

Location: Hillcrest Drive, Belmont

Date: 5/10/2011 Time: 0400 hours

EVENT

During the early morning hours of Tuesday 5/10/2011, Belmont Police were dispatched to the 3500 block of Hillcrest Drive after a citizen reported that (2) suspects were seen entering his unlocked vehicle, which was parked in his driveway. While Officers were checking the area, they noticed a vehicle fleeing the scene. The vehicle failed to yield to the Belmont patrol unit and a short pursuit ensued into a residential neighborhood in San Carlos. The pursuit ended when the suspect lost control of his vehicle, and collided into the front yard of a residence. Travis Castellanos, 21 yrs of Montera and Danielle Lateur (a.k.a. Danielle Gonzalez), 19 yrs of Pacifica were apprehended at the conclusion of the pursuit. They were both transported to a local hospital where they were treated for minor injuries. No one else was injured. Both suspects were booked into the San Mateo County Jail where they are being held for violating Parole and Probation terms, pending further investigation into charges related to Evading Police, Possessing Stolen Property, Theft and Criminal Conspiracy.

5/20/11 UPDATE:

This event has been under investigation by Belmont Police since Castellanos and Lateur were arrested. Over 100 items of property have been recovered and Belmont PD Detectives have been working with other law enforcement agencies throughout San Mateo County to identify victims. As of today, property recovered in this case has been linked to 4 victims in Belmont 6 victims in neighboring jurisdictions, including San Mateo, Hillsborough and Redwood City. In addition, property from at least one theft in the City of Novato (Marin County) was also recovered by Belmont PD Detectives. Those crimes all occurred between May 6th & 10th.

This morning, the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office filed the following charges in connection with this investigation:

Travis Castellanos <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 496(A) PC Possession of Stolen Property· 666 PC Theft w/prior conviction (5 counts)· 487(A) PC Grand Theft (3 counts)· 11550(A) H&S Under Influence of controlled substance· 11364 H&S Possession of a controlled substance	Danielle Lateur (a.k.a. Danielle Gonzalez) <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 496(A) PC Possession of Stolen Property· 2800.2 VC Evading Police
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The investigation is continuing and additional charges are anticipated. Updates will be provided as they become available, however it appears that Castellanos & Lateur may be linked to additional thefts in Redwood City, Unincorporated San Mateo County and Marin County.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 5/20/11 Time: 1200hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 5/20/11 Time: 1200hrs

5/20/2011 2011 Click-It or Ticket



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 20, 2011



Contact: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
650-595-7430

BUCKLE UP DAY AND NIGHT
One Million Californians Still Not Buckling Up

Belmont – Beginning on May 23 and continuing through June 5, 2011, the Belmont Police Department will be joining more than 140 other local law enforcement agencies statewide and the California Highway Patrol looking for unbelted drivers and passengers in this year's *Click It or Ticket* mobilization.

As families across California plan for upcoming spring travel, there's not much you can do to control the cost of filling up the gas tank, but you can avoid a costly ticket by making sure that everyone in the car wears their seat belt. The fines and fees for first time adult seat belt violations is a minimum of \$142. For children under 16, the fine is \$445 for a first time offense.

Because nighttime passenger vehicle occupants are among those least likely to buckle up and most likely to die in crashes when unrestrained, nighttime enforcement will be a priority of the *Click It or Ticket* mobilization. Nationwide, of those who died in nighttime crashes in 2009, nearly two-thirds (62 percent) were not wearing seat belts at the time of their fatal crashes.

"Many nighttime traffic deaths can be prevented if more motorists simply start wearing their seat belts. Law enforcement throughout the area will be looking for seat belt violators, day and night," said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Citations will be issued. But it's not just about avoiding a costly ticket; it's about keeping the ones you care about alive. Remember to buckle up on every trip, day and night" Chief Mattei added.

California's current seat belt use rate of 96.2 percent is at an all time high, but that still leaves nearly one million people who are not buckling up, putting their lives at risk every time they get into the car. The *Click It or Ticket* mobilization is credited with increasing the state's adult seat belt usage rate from 92.5 percent in 2005 to 96.2 percent in 2010.

"We are very proud of California's seat belt and child safety seat use rates," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "However, with nearly one million motorists still not buckling up, there is much more work to do. Reaching the last four percent of motorists is crucial to reaching our goal of zero deaths."

More than 600 permanent *Click It or Ticket* highway signs, which have been up since 2005, have been updated to reflect the 'Minimum \$142' message as a reminder to motorists that failing to buckle up is costly. Properly restrained drivers, passengers and children have a 50 percent better chance of surviving a crash than unbelted occupants. Those ejected from vehicles in crashes or roll-overs are up to 35 times more likely to die than restrained occupants. In 2009 alone, seat belts saved approximately 12,713 lives nationwide. In California, it is estimated that 320 people who were killed in 2009 would be alive today if they had been wearing seat belts. Funding to support California's *Click It or Ticket* campaign was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

###

5/25/2011 Suspect Arrested in Stolen Car



BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



Type of Incident: Suspect arrested in stolen car after fleeing from
Belmont PD two suspects still outstanding

Case #: 1105-0153

Location: 1000 blk Ralston Av, Belmont

Date: 5/25/11 Time: 0340hrs

EVENT

Early this morning Belmont PD arrested a 25 yr old San Jose woman and are seeking two other suspects in connection with multiple auto thefts and possibly thefts from parked vehicles. This is an ongoing and developing investigation, but the following sequence of events is known at this time.

At approx. 3:40AM, a Belmont PD patrol officer made a traffic stop a Honda Civic, occupied by three subjects, in the 1000blk of Ralston Av. The vehicle fled and a short pursuit ensued, which ended when the vehicle stopped on 6th Av & Hill St. Two of the suspects, a male and female, fled from the vehicle but the third suspect, Maria Garcia age 25 of San Jose, was arrested at the scene without incident. The Honda was determined to have been stolen out of San Jose. Belmont officers began an area search for the suspects with the assistance of units from the San Mateo Police and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, with negative results. Garcia was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City for violation of parole.

As the morning continued, Belmont Police received three separate reports of Hondas being stolen during the night.

- A 1995 Black Honda Civic was reported stolen from the 2000 blk of Mezes Av and was located abandoned in the 2100 blk of Coronet Blvd.
- A Green 1999 Honda Civic was reported stolen from the 900 blk of Miramar Terr and was recovered on Middle Rd, after being involved in a non-injury hit & run collision at Ralston Av & El Camino.
- A Blue 1990 Honda Accord 4-dr Sedan was reported stolen from the 1600 blk of Valley View Av and is still outstanding.

At this time, Belmont Police believe that these events and possibly other crimes are all connected to these suspects. Property recovered from the vehicle, which was initially stopped on Ralston Av, is believed to have been stolen from one or more parked vehicles during the night, in Belmont. Additional updates on this case will be provided as they become available.

Belmont Police are asking for the public's help in locating , the blue 1990 Honda Accord 4-door sedan lic# 2YHU742 (CA) stolen during this series of events and two suspects a Hispanic male and a Hispanic female, both in their 20's. A photo of a similar vehicle is available on the City of Belmont website at www.belmont.gov, under the Press Releases tab.

The suspects in these crimes appear to be specifically targeting 1990's era Honda vehicles. Owners of these vehicles are reminded to lock their vehicles asked to remove valuables or store them in the trunk if the vehicle is not in a garage. The use of a car alarm is also highly recommended. Anyone with information on these crimes is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 5/25/11 Time: 1300hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 5/25/11 Time: 1300hrs



5/26/2011 Thinking of Running for Office?

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Thinking of Running for Office?

Belmont, CA -- Are you considering getting more involved in your community by running for elected office? Does the idea of running a campaign intimidate you? Would you like to learn more about what it takes to become a candidate for office?

On Monday, June 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., Belmont City Clerk Terri Cook will be hosting a forum to provide information about becoming a candidate for offices that serve the Belmont community, including Belmont City Council, Belmont-Redwood Shores School District, the Sequoia Union High School District, and Mid-Peninsula Water District. Members of these policy bodies serve the residents of the City of Belmont, and school board members also serve those who live in Redwood Shores. Many people are not even aware that water service is provided by an agency separate from the City, and this agency is headed by an elected board. This forum will be held at Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on the second floor.

It should be noted that the Belmont City Clerk and the Belmont City Treasurer are elected positions in Belmont, and this forum is applicable to those positions as well.

The purpose of the informal workshop is to help demystify the candidate nomination and filing process. Although the majority of Belmont City Council races are contested, the other agencies are often looking for worthy candidates. "Even though I'm not the filing officer for special districts such as the school board and water board – those are handled by the County Registrar of Voters – I am hoping to encourage people to think about throwing their hat in the ring and run for local office. People in the community have expressed their desire for more information about becoming a candidate, as they are intimidated by the process."

"The County Elections Office holds similar forums, but they are only available during the day, and scheduled near the start of the nomination period. I think if people are thinking about doing this, the sooner they have the necessary information, the better informed will be their decision. My forum is going to be held during evening hours which will help meet the needs of working people," said City Clerk Cook. "I also wanted to focus my efforts on my own community." The County workshops will be held on July 13 at 2:00 p.m. and again on July 21 at 10:00 a.m.

The nomination period for all agencies will open on Monday, July 18th.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's office at 650-595-7413, or email the City Clerk at tcCook@belmont.gov. Additional information regarding the nomination process can be found on the City's website at www.belmont.gov (see "hot topics" or City Clerk's page).

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Distribution:

The Examiner
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. presidents, SMT, PIC, web
City Treasurer

6/2/2011 Suspects Sought in Residential Burglary

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Suspects Sought in Residential Burglary**

Case #: 1106-0004

Location: 1700 blk of Hillman Av, Belmont

Date: 6/1/11

Time: 1658hrs

EVENT

On Wednesday, June 1, 2011 @ approx 5pm, Belmont Police responded to a residence in the 1700 blk of Hillman Av on a report of a residential burglary that had just occurred. The case is currently under investigation, but the following is known at this time.

The victim, a 63 yr old Belmont woman, was in the garage of her residence, when she heard a car pull into her driveway. The woman went out to investigate and saw a male suspect walking toward her and a white sedan in the driveway with an unidentified passenger. The suspect told the woman that he was working at the property behind hers and needed to show her something in her back yard. As the victim and suspect walked toward the backyard, the suspect spoke to someone in Spanish over a hand-held radio. As the suspect was "explaining the problem" to the victim she became suspicious and began to walk back to the house.

The suspect attempted to stall the victim and then used the hand-held radio to communicate with someone, again in Spanish. The victim is non-Spanish speaking and did not understand what the suspect said. The victim then walked back to the house. As she entered the garage, she heard the front door of the residence slam shut. The victim looked out and saw the sedan pulling out of the driveway with two occupants. The sedan was last seen leaving W/B on Hillman Av. The victim called 9-1-1 and subsequently discovered that jewelry was missing from the residence. The victim was not injured during the crime.

The suspect who approached the victim is described as a Hispanic male in his 20's, approx. 5' 6" tall with a medium build. He has short dark hair and was unshaven. The suspect was wearing a blue baseball cap with the letter "B" on the front, a white T-shirt (no logo or design) and jeans. The second suspect, who apparently entered the house, is unknown. The vehicle is described as an older white 4-door sedan, similar to a Ford Taurus.

Belmont Police Detectives are currently investigating this case and plan on having the victim work with a police sketch artist later today. Detectives are also in contact with other peninsula law enforcement agencies regarding possible similar crimes. On May 17th a subject attempted to gain access to a residential backyard on Chula Vista Dr in Belmont by claiming to be a City worker, but fled when confronted by a resident. The suspects in this most recent crime did not attempt to identify themselves as City workers. It is unknown if these cases are related.

The Belmont Police want to alert the public to these crimes and remind them to call 9-1-1 immediately if they encounter these or similar suspects. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 6/2/11 Time: 0910hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 6/1/11 Time: 0910hrs

6/3/2011 Update Residential Burglary



BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



Type of Incident: **Residential Burglary - Suspect Sketch Released**

Case #: 1106-0004

Location: 1700 blk of Hillman Av, Belmont

Date: 6/1/11 Time: 1658hrs

EVENT

On Wednesday, June 1, 2011 @ approx. 5pm, a 63 yr old Belmont woman was in the garage of her residence when she heard a car pull into her driveway. The woman went out to investigate and saw a male suspect walking toward her and a white sedan in the driveway, with an unidentified passenger. The suspect told the woman that he was working at the property behind hers and needed to show her something in her back yard. The suspect attempted to stall the victim but she became suspicious and walked back toward the house. The suspect then used the hand-held radio to communicate with someone, again in Spanish. As the victim entered the garage, she heard the front door of the residence slam shut. The victim looked out and saw the sedan pulling out of the driveway with two occupants. The sedan was last seen leaving W/B on Hillman Av. The victim called 9-1-1 and subsequently discovered that jewelry was missing from the residence. The victim was not injured during the crime.

6/2/11 UPDATE

A police sketch artist, working with the victim, has developed a composite sketch of the suspect who approached her. He is described as a Hispanic male in his 20's, approx. 5' 6" tall with a medium build. The suspect has short dark hair and was unshaven. He was wearing a blue baseball cap with the letter "B" on the front, a white T-shirt (no logo or design) and jeans. The second suspect, who apparently entered the house, is unknown. The vehicle is described as an older white 4-door sedan, similar to a Ford Taurus.

The suspect sketch and a photo of a vehicle similar to the one used by the suspects accompany this press release.

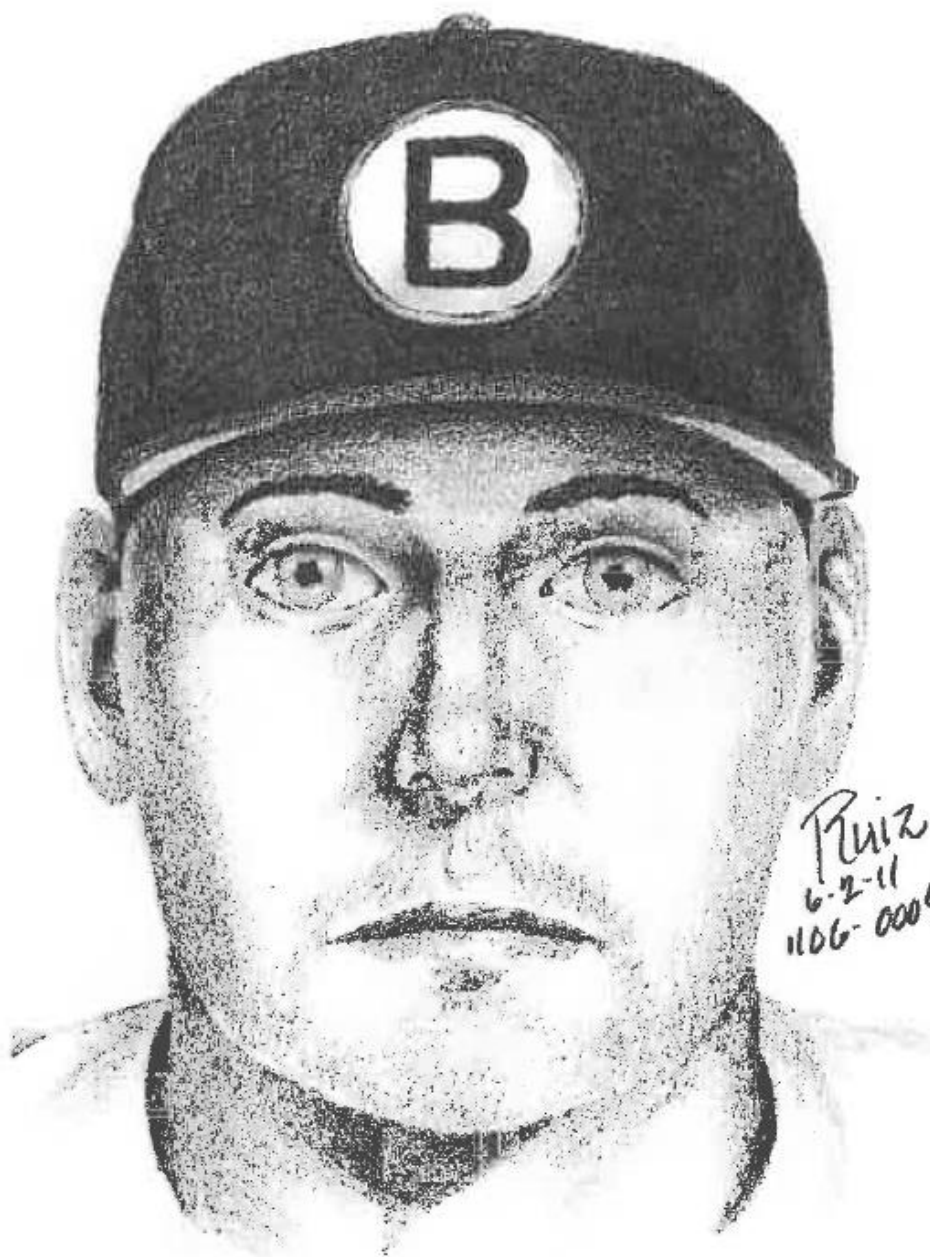
Copies of press releases relating to this case, as well as the composite sketch and photo of a vehicle similar to the one used by the suspects, can also found on-line by going to the City of Belmont Website at www.belmont.gov and clicking the Press Releases button on the left side of the homepage.

The Belmont Police want to alert the public to these crimes and remind them to call 9-1-1 immediately if they encounter these or similar suspects. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 6/2/11 Time: 1710hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 6/2/11 Time: 1710hrs





6/6/2011 Juveniles Arrested for School Burglary

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Juveniles Arrested for School Burglary**

Case #: 1106-0031

Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary School

Date: 6/6/11 Time: 0042hrs

1000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

EVENT

On Monday, June 06, 2011 @ approx. 12:45am, Belmont Police responded to a burglar alarm at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 1000 Alameda, Belmont. Responding officers found that unknown suspect(s) had gained entry to the school through a window, but apparently fled, when the alarm was activated.

At approx. 2:45 am, a San Mateo County Sheriff's Deputy stopped two male juveniles in front of Carlmont High School. Subsequent investigation linked the juveniles to the burglary at the school. The juveniles, a 17 yr old from Belmont & a 15 yr old from San Carlos, were taken into custody by Belmont Police without incident and later released to their parents. The names of the suspects are being withheld due to their ages. The case is being submitted to the San Mateo County District Attorney for a charge of commercial burglary against the two juveniles.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 6/6/11 Time: 1045hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 6/6/11 Time: 1045hrs

6/21/2011 Doug Fry Named Interim Fire Chief for the New Belmont Fire Department

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2011

CONTACT: Greg Scoles – (650) 595-7408

Doug Fry named Interim Fire Chief for the New Belmont Fire Department

Belmont, CA --

City Manager Greg Scoles announced today that he has named Doug Fry as Interim Chief for the new Belmont Fire Department. Chief Fry began his career as a firefighter with the Belmont Fire Protection District in 1975 and then with South County Fire Authority at its inception in 1979. He was promoted to Fire Captain in 1982, then to Battalion/Training Chief in 1997. Doug retired as Fire Chief of the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department in May 2011 with over 35 years of service to our community.

“Chief Fry has a solid Fire background and is enthused about this opportunity in Belmont,” said Scoles. “We are confident he will keep things moving forward during this transition period, and we feel very lucky to have Doug back in our organization.”

“I appreciate the opportunity to serve the City of Belmont during this important time,” Fry said. “My goal will be to make the transition to the new Belmont Fire Department as seamless as possible.”

City Manager Greg Scoles appointed Doug Fry to the position effective June 21, 2011. Chief Fry will be responsible for the transition from Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department to the new Belmont Fire Department effective October 2011. After the transition, Fry’s interim position will continue into early 2012 while the City conducts a search for a permanent Fire Chief.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo Times

The San Mateo Daily News

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Examiner

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. presidents, web, employees

6/27/2011 Highway 101 Closure Reminder - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2011

CONTACT: Diane Lynn, (650) 595-7425
30 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002
Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Belmont, CA –

“Highway 101 Closure Reminder - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge”

A portion of Highway 101 will be closed this week so work can be done on the Ralston Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project in Belmont.

The highway will be closed in the northbound direction between Ralston Avenue and Hillsdale Boulevard from 12:30 a.m. - 4 a.m. Tuesday morning. The highway will be closed in the southbound direction on Wednesday morning from 1 a.m. - 4:30 a.m.

In Tuesday's northbound detour, motorists will be moved off the highway at the Ralston Avenue offramp. They will follow Ralston Ave west to El Camino Real, then turn north on El Camino Real until they reach Hillsdale Boulevard. A right turn on Hillsdale will finish the detour back to the freeway.

In Wednesday's southbound detour, motorists will exit the freeway at Hillsdale Boulevard, where they will be directed west to El Camino Real, then south on El Camino Real to Ralston Avenue. A left turn on Ralston Avenue will take motorists back to the onramp of the freeway.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily Journal
The Daily Post
The Examiner/Independent
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

6/28/2011 Highway 101 Closure Update - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2011

CONTACT: Diane Lynn, (650) 595-7425

30 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Belmont, CA –

“Highway 101 Closure Update - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge”

The freeway closure scheduled for Wednesday morning on Highway 101 between Ralston Avenue and Hillsdale Boulevard has been cancelled due to high chance of rain.

The freeway closure for the work on the Ralston Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project in Belmont has been rescheduled to Thursday from 1 a.m. - 4:30 a.m.

In Thursday's southbound detour, motorists will exit the freeway at Hillsdale Boulevard, where they will be directed west to El Camino Real, then south on El Camino Real to Ralston Avenue. A left turn on Ralston Avenue will take motorists back to the onramp of the freeway.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners,

Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

7/12/2011 Election Season Set to Begin

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 12, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Election Season Set to Begin

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont will hold a General Municipal Election on November 8. Two seats on the five-member City Council will be up for election, as will the City Treasurer and City Clerk. All seats are four-year terms, and because Belmont has no term limits, all incumbents are eligible for re-election. City Council Incumbents whose terms will be expiring are David Braunstein and Christine Wozniak. The incumbent City Treasurer is John Violet, and the Incumbent City Clerk is Terri Cook.

Candidate packets, including nomination papers and other required forms, will be available to any interested candidate beginning Monday, July 18, and the deadline to file papers as a candidate is Friday, August 12. If any one incumbent has not filed nomination papers by the August 12th deadline, further nomination of candidates, other than incumbents, for such elective office will be received until 5:00 P.M. on August 17. These dates are set by Election Code and cannot be waived. Candidate packets are not available prior to July 18.

The City will schedule an orientation for all declared candidates after the filing period closes in August.

In addition, the County Election Office is holding a series of informational workshops for those interested in becoming candidates for any local race in San Mateo County. Please contact their office at (650) 312-5222 for more information, or visit www.shapethefuture.org.

Nomination papers must be picked up in person by the prospective candidate (not his/her representative) from the City Clerk in Suite 375 at City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, during regular business hours. "Although an appointment to take out nomination papers is not required, it is highly recommended to ensure that I am available to review the paperwork with the candidate. This process can be a little overwhelming, especially for a newcomer," said Terri Cook, Belmont City Clerk. "I like to sit down and review each document to ensure the prospective candidate is familiar with all of the requirements. There's more to it than just making the decision to run for office." To be a candidate, you must be a registered voter in the City of Belmont.

For more information or to make an appointment for picking up a nomination packet, please contact the City Clerk's office at 650-595-7413, or email the City Clerk at tcCook@belmont.gov. Additional information regarding the nomination process can be found on the City's website at www.belmont.gov (see "hot topics" or City Clerk's page).

The deadline to register to vote for the November election is October 24.

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Distribution:

The Examiner
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. presidents, SMT, PIC, web
City Treasurer

7/15/2011 Belmont Police Invites Residents To a Free Senior Fraud Prevention Workshop and Warn of "Grandson Scam" Targetting Seniors

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
(650) 595-7430

Press Release

BELMONT POLICE INVITE RESIDENTS TO A FREE SENIOR FRAUD PREVENTION WORKSHOP AND WARN OF "GRANDSON SCAM" TARGETING SENIORS

Belmont, CA --

Chief Mattei and the Belmont Police would like to invite Belmont residents to a Free Senior Fraud Prevention Workshop, sponsored by Assemblyman Jerry Hill, being held on Monday, July 18th from 10AM-11AM at the Twin Pines Senior & Community Center, 20 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont.

The Belmont Police are also alerting the public and specifically the senior community, to a recent increase in what is known as the "Grandson Scam". While the specific details may vary, the basic scam is essentially the same. A resident, typically a senior citizen, will receive a call from a male identifying themselves as their "grandson". The suspect will tell the victim that they have either been involved in an accident or have been arrested and need money. The suspect will explain that his parents don't know about it and he is afraid to tell them, so they are asking their grandparents for help. The suspect will add that he wants to keep this from his parents and other relatives and will ask that the money be sent by wire, typically to an overseas or out of state location.

In June, a 79 yr old Belmont woman received a call from a suspect claiming to be her grandson, who said he "had been in a traffic accident with tourists from Lebanon and had been arrested for DUI." He explained that if he paid for the damages the charges would be dropped. Over the course of several days, the victim wired almost, \$30,000 to Beirut, Lebanon.

In July, there were three incidents. In two of the cases the victims became suspicious and essentially hung up on the caller. However, in the third case, the victim an 89 yr old Belmont woman, wired approx. \$6,000 to Mexico City to post bail for her "son who had been arrested on drug charges."

In all of these cases, the suspects are described as being "persistent" and have called victims back, even after having been confronted. Belmont Police are investigating these cases and encourage victims to report any similar incidents. "Often victims don't report having been victimized because they are embarrassed that they were taken in, however, it is vital that victims come forward" said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "We encourage people to become educated about this as well as other scams and remind them to be cautious about anyone who calls asking for money" Mattei added.

7/18/2011 Three Arrested in Residential Burglary

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Three Arrested in Residential Burglary**
0088

Case #: 1107-

Location: 400 blk Yorkshire Way, Belmont
hrs

Date: 7/18/11 Time: 1354

EVENT

An alert mail carrier is being credited with calling Belmont PD when he noticed three young men loitering near a home on Yorkshire Way in Belmont today. Seeing that the gate to the home's backyard was open, and recognizing that the young men were not residents, the mail carrier called 911. Belmont officers responded, investigated, and confirmed that the home had indeed been burglarized. The officers were able to link the three young men to the crime, and the trio was taken into custody without incident. They will be booked on charges related to residential burglary and possession of stolen property.

Belmont Police Detectives are currently investigating this case. The suspect's names are being withheld until their identities can be confirmed and the investigation is completed. Detectives are also in contact with other peninsula law enforcement agencies regarding possible similar crimes. Additional information will be released as it becomes available. Anyone with additional information on this case is asked to call 650-595-7400.

###

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 7/18/11 Time: 1700 hrs

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei
Date: 7/18/11 Time: 1700 hrs

7/19/2011 Three Arrested in Residential Burglary Update
BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE
Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Three Arrested in Residential Burglary** Case #: 1107- 0088
Location: 400 blk Yorkshire Way, Belmont Date: 7/18/11 Time: 1354 hrs

EVENT

On Monday, July 18, 2011 shortly before 2pm, an alert mail carrier noticed three young men loitering near a home on Yorkshire Way in Belmont. Seeing that the gate to the home's backyard was open, and recognizing that the young men were not residents, the mail carrier called 911. Belmont officers responded, investigated, and confirmed that the home had indeed been burglarized. The officers were able to link the three young men to the crime, and the trio was taken into custody without incident.

7/19/11 UPDATE

The suspects who were arrested in connection with this case are:

- Tele Matangi – age 23 of Belmont
- Tavasa Pale – age 18 of East Palo Alto
- Erik Palomarescabrera – age 18 of East Palo Alto

All three suspects were booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City, on the following charges:

- 460(a) PC – Residential Burglary
- 496(a) PC – Possession of Stolen Property
- 182 PC – Conspiracy

The investigation into this burglary is continuing and Belmont PD Detectives are networking with other San Mateo County law enforcement agencies to see if these suspects are connected to any other burglaries. Anyone with information on this crime or these suspects is asked to call the Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 7/19/11 Time: 1145hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 7/19/11 Time: 1145hrs

7/22/2011 2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2011

CONTACT: Diane Lynn, (650) 595-7425
1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002
Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Belmont, CA –

“2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project”

Belmont’s 2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project contract has been awarded to Bond Blacktop, Inc. The project consists of slurry seal treatment on Ralston Avenue, Belburn Drive, Chevy Street, Alameda de las Pulgas, Longfellow Drive, Oak Knoll Drive and Terrace Drive. The Belburn Drive segment from Notre Dame Avenue to Academy Drive includes a one and one half inch (1½”) overlay. Prior to applying slurry seal treatment, local damaged areas will be repaired and pavement striping will be removed as necessary. Pavement striping will be re-striped after slurry seal is applied. The project limits are as follows:

Ralston Avenue (El Camino Real - Cipriani Boulevard)
Alameda de las Pulgas (Covington Road North - Covington Road South)
Belburn Drive (Villa Avenue - Notre Dame Avenue)
Chevy Street (Belburn Drive - Ralston Avenue)
Longfellow Drive (Bay Court - Haskins Drive)
Oak Knoll Drive (Valley View Avenue - End)
Terrace Drive (Notre Dame Avenue - Hillman Avenue)

Traffic delays should be expected on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas beginning Friday, July 22, 2011 through August 17, 2011 from 8:00am – 4:00pm due to construction activity. Through traffic on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas will remain open at all times. Road construction at all other locations is scheduled to begin on July 27, 2011 weather depending.

The specifications include provisions that work on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas shall be completed by August 17, 2011 in order to accommodate the fall semester school schedule in Belmont.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily Journal
The Daily Post
The Examiner/Independent
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

7/29/2011 Belmont Police Alert Residents Increase in Residential Burglaries

For Immediate Release

Contact: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
650-595-7430

**Belmont Police Alert Residents
to Recent Increase in Residential Burglaries**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police would like to alert residents to a recent increase in residential burglaries that has occurred over the past week. Since Monday, July 25th, a total of 7 residential burglaries or attempted residential burglaries have been reported to Belmont Police. In all of the cases no one was home at the time of the crime and the burglars appear to be taking jewelry and electronic equipment, such as laptop computers.

While the crimes have occurred in several residential neighborhoods, all have occurred between 9:00AM and 6:00PM in the central section of Belmont, west of El Camino and east of Alameda de las Pulgas. The following is a breakdown of the dates and locations.

- Monday 7/25/11
1600 blk of Norte Dame Ave. - Burglary
1200 blk of Elmer St. - Burglary
- Wednesday 7/27/11
1500 blk of El Verano Way - Burglary
300 blk of Malcolm Ave – Attempted Burglary
- Thursday 7/28/11
1800 blk of Oak Knoll Dr – Burglary
1800 blk of Oak Knoll Dr – Burglary
400 blk of Middle Rd – Attempted Burglary

Belmont Police are actively investigating these crimes and are looking for two subjects of interest, who were seen Thursday in the 1800 blk of Oak Knoll Dr.

- A white male, 25-30 yrs of age with a thin build and short blonde hair. This subject contacted a resident in the area asking “if they had a dog for sale”. When he was told that he had the wrong address, the subject left. No vehicle seen or heard.
- A black male, 20-30 yrs of age, medium build, and casual dress. This subject was seen knocking on doors at various residences. He was associated with a gray BMW sedan.

“We are asking for the public’s help in not only solving these crimes, but also preventing future burglaries,” said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. “Residents should make sure they lock their homes when they are away and consider an alarm system.” “If you see a person or vehicle in your neighborhood that looks suspicious, please call police right away, it’s important that neighbors look out for each other” Mattei added. Anyone with information on these subjects or the recent burglaries, is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400.

7/30/2011 Nighttime Residential Burglaries

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Nighttime Residential Burglaries
Case #: 1107-0162 & 1107-0163
Location: 1900 blk of Hillman Ave & 1700 blk Pine Knoll Dr.
Date: 7/30/11
Time: 0130-0200hrs

EVENT

Two residences in Belmont were entered last night by an unknown suspect(s) who removed property. This is the same neighborhood where three daytime residential burglaries occurred over the past week. While it is unknown if the daytime and nighttime incidents are connected, all of the incidents are under investigation by Belmont Police. The following information is known at this time.

On Saturday, July 30, at approx. 1:30AM, a resident in the 1900 blk of Hillman Ave was awakened by the sound of their garage door opening. When the resident investigated, they discovered that unknown suspect(s) had entered their unlocked vehicle, which was parked in their driveway, and used the remote control to open the garage door. The suspect(s) took a silver mountain bike from the garage and fled. No suspect(s) or suspect vehicle was seen or heard. The suspect(s) did not enter the main portion of the residence.

At approx. 2AM, a resident in the 1700 blk of Pine Knoll Dr, was awakened by the sound of their dogs barking. The resident dismissed the noise, as their dogs occasionally bark at deer and other wild animals that frequent the area. At approx. 7:30AM the victim discovered that during the night their unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway, had been entered as well as their residence. The suspect(s) took coins from the vehicle, then entered the residence through an unlocked rear window. The suspect(s) took a wallet and keys off a table in the family room and fled out a rear door. The wallet was later found in the front yard, with an undetermined amount of cash missing. The keys, which belonged to a friend of the resident staying at the home, were not recovered.

Belmont Police investigators are working on these cases, as well as the daytime burglaries that occurred earlier in the week. So far, several tips have been received in response to earlier media coverage and we are hopeful that people continue to report suspicious persons and activity. While we are stepping up marked and unmarked patrols of this and other neighborhoods, we need the public's help to tell us about suspicious activity. It is the residents who know their neighborhood the best and are an important part of crime prevention & detection.

In addition to these two burglaries, several unlocked vehicles were entered last night on Notre Dame Ave, Hillman Ave and Folger Dr, with various items being taken. One common theme in all of these crimes is that the suspect(s) targeted unlocked vehicles. Residents are reminded to remove valuables from your car or place them in the trunk, and always lock your vehicle, when parking it on your driveway or on the street.

Anyone with information on these crimes is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 7/30/11 Time: 1525hrs

Authorized By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 7/30/11 Time: 1525hrs

8/5/2011 Hwy 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5, 2011

CONTACT: Gilbert Yau, (650) 595-7467

One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – There will be full freeway closures on Northbound and Southbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo during the weeks of August 8 and August 15, 2011. These closures are required to paint the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont. This project is being constructed by the City of Belmont.

Northbound Route 101 will be closed for four consecutive nights between Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway and Hillsdale Boulevard for 3.5 hours from 12:30 AM to 4:00 AM beginning on Monday, August 8 and continuing through Thursday, August 11. The detour for this closure will be Ralston Avenue to El Camino Real to Hillsdale Boulevard.

Southbound Route 101 will be closed for four consecutive nights between Hillsdale Boulevard and Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway for 3.5 hours from 1:00 AM to 4:30 AM beginning on Monday, August 15 and continuing through Thursday, August 18. The detour for this closure will be Hillsdale Boulevard to El Camino Real to Ralston Avenue.

Detour signs will be posted to direct traffic.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

8/9/2011 2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project

NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 8, 2011

CONTACT: (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

pworks@belmont.gov

Belmont, CA –

**Ralston Ave. and Alameda de las Pulgas Night Work –
2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project**

Pavement lane marking work will take place at night on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas as part of the 2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project. The dates and times of the night work will occur on Wednesday, August 10, 2011 and Thursday, August 11, 2011 from 9:00pm – 6:00am. Work shall consist of laying out pavement marking lines. There are no full lane closures anticipated, and at most when laying out crosswalks and markings, the effected cross lanes will be closed for approximately 5 minutes maximum. There will be minimal or no light and noise caused by work.

The project includes provisions that work on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas shall be completed by August 17, 2011 in order to accommodate the start time of the fall semester school schedule in Belmont.

Please contact Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400 if you have any concerns during the night work.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times
The San Mateo Daily Journal
The Daily Post
The Examiner/Independent
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

8/10/2011 City of Belmont Expands Access to Telephone Community Alert System

Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 10, 2011

CONTACT:
Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650)595-7430

**CITY OF BELMONT EXPANDS ACCESS
TO TELEPHONE COMMUNITY ALERT SYSTEM**

The City of Belmont is expanding access to its telephone community alert system. The system, provided by Rapid Notify, has been used by the City of Belmont for over 10 years and up until now, depended on phone numbers provided by the telephone company for its caller database. "In recent years we have noticed that fewer and fewer residents are getting our telephone alerts, we need to change our communication strategies to recognize that many people are moving away from traditional land-line phones to cellular and voice over IP services," said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Getting crime information out to the public, such as our recent spike in thefts, is an important part of our community policing efforts." "We have to convey information quickly, in the way people want to get it," Mattei added.

Belmont's Community Alert System is used by not only the Police Department, but other City departments such as Public Works to get important information to residents. Some of the messages sent on the system include:

- In-progress events impacting a neighborhood or area, such as a fire, traffic collision, gas leak or other emergency.
- Planned events impacting a neighborhood or area, such as road construction or a large community event.
- Crime information such as a series of thefts.
- Missing endangered child or adult.
- Severe weather

The new system allows members of the public to sign up to get important community alerts on cell phone, work phone or home phone, regardless of carrier. Subscribers set up a login and password, which allow them to modify their information or opt-out of the system as they choose.

The public can sign up for the Belmont Community Alert System at the City of Belmont website www.belmont.gov. Once on the homepage, scroll down to the bottom and click the button on the left side, titled Belmont Community Alert System. This will take you to the sign-in screen. "We are committed to helping businesses and institutions effectively communicate life-saving information to the public," said Steve Sipe, President of Rapid Notify. "We are proud to partner with the City of Belmont in this effort." Sipe added

8/11/2011 Hwy 101 Closure

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2011

CONTACT: Gilbert Yau, (650) 595-7467
One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002
Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – There will be full freeway closures on Southbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo during the weeks of August 15, 2011. These closures are required to paint the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont. This project is being constructed by the City of Belmont.

Northbound Route 101 will be closed for three consecutive nights between Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway and Hillsdale Boulevard for 3.5 hours from 12:30 AM to 4:00 AM beginning on Monday, August 15 and continuing through Wednesday, August 17. The detour for this closure will be Ralston Avenue East to El Camino Real to Hillsdale Boulevard.

Southbound Route 101 will be closed between Hillsdale Boulevard and Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway for 3.5 hours from 1:00 AM to 4:30 AM on Thursday, August 18. The detour for this closure will be Hillsdale Boulevard East to El Camino Real to Ralston Avenue.

Detour signs will be posted to direct traffic.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

8/11/2011 Arrest in Recent Burglary Spree

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Arrests in recent Burglary Spree**

Case #: 1108- 0050

Location: Belmont, CA

Date: 8/11/11 Time: 0930 hrs

Last night, Belmont PD Detectives joined forces with San Mateo PD Detectives to track down and arrest two suspects who are responsible for the spike in thefts and burglaries in Belmont. 21 yr old Travis Castellanos (South San Francisco) and 20 yr old Jenna Montani (San Mateo) were booked in the San Mateo County Jail last night on various charges related to the thefts. Although this investigation is ongoing, Detectives believe that these suspects may be responsible for hundreds of thefts up and down the peninsula. They will be coordinating with area law enforcement agencies and sharing information, as part of this investigation.

Last night marks the third time that Castellanos has been arrested in Belmont for theft / burglary in the past 18 months. Each time he has been booked and charged with felonies. He was recently released from the San Mateo County Jail, following a May 2011 arrest where he took property from several cars and then led Belmont PD officers on a car chase that ended in San Carlos when he and another female accomplice crashed into the front of a house.

Last night, Detectives recovered dozens of stolen items including cell phones, gift cards, personal electronics, purses, wallets, backpacks, and check books. Victims are being called to identify the stolen property.

“Our Detectives worked tirelessly on these cases. I’m proud of this Police Department, and I’m proud of the way this community came together to look out for one another,” said Chief Don Mattei.

If you have additional information for Detectives, or if you wish to inquire about stolen property you may call 650-595-7400.

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 8/11/11 Time: 0930 hrs

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei
Date: 8/11/11 Time: 0930 hrs

8/12/2011 Ralston and Alameda de las Pulgas Pavement Striping

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2011

CONTACT: (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

pworks@belmont.gov

**Ralston Ave. and Alameda de las Pulgas Pavement Striping –
2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project**

Belmont, CA – Pavement lane striping work will take place at night on Ralston Avenue (from El Camino Real to Cipriani Boulevard) and Alameda de las Pulgas (from Covington Road North to Covington Road South) as part of the 2011 Capital Pavement Maintenance Project. The date and times of the night work will occur on Monday, August 15, 2011 from 9:00pm – 6:00am. Work shall consist of installing permanent pavement marking lines. There are no full lane closures anticipated, and at most when laying out crosswalks and markings, the effected cross lanes will be closed for approximately 5 minutes maximum. There will be minimal or no light and noise caused by work.

Work may continue on Ralston Avenue on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 through Wednesday, August 17, 2011 from 8:00am – 4:00pm to complete the pavement lane markings operation. Traffic delays should be expected.

The project includes provisions that work on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas shall be completed by August 17, 2011 in order to accommodate the start time of the fall semester school schedule in Belmont.

Please contact Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400 if you have any concerns during the night work.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

8/15/2011 Armed Robbery - Suspects In Custody

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Armed Robbery – Suspects In Custody**

Case #: 1108-0087

Location: 1300 blk Civic Lane, Belmont

Date: 8/10/11 Time: 2124hrs

EVENT

On Wednesday, August 10, 2011 @ approx. 9:25PM, Belmont Police responded to a call of an armed robbery that had just occurred in the 1300 blk of Civic Lane.

The employees of a local restaurant were walking to their cars after closing the business, when they were approached by three African America suspects who demanded money. Two of the suspects were armed with handguns. The suspects took a purse and laptop from one victim and money from the other victim. Neither victim was injured during the robbery and the suspects were last seen running south down Civic Lane, toward Broadway. No vehicle was seen or heard. A similar robbery occurred the same night in the City of Burlingame and similar robberies, which have recently occurred in the City of San Mateo, have been under investigation by the San Mateo Police Department.

In the early morning hours of Thursday, August 11, 2011, San Mateo Police and other law enforcement agencies executed search warrants related to this investigation, in the City of East Palo Alto. As a result, three suspects were located and taken into custody without incident. The suspects are 23 year-old Marc Jordan of East Palo Alto, 19 year-old Melissa Butler of East Palo Alto, and a 16 year-old male juvenile. Jordan and Butler were booked into the San Mateo County Jail for robbery, assaulted with a deadly weapon, and conspiracy. The juvenile suspect was booked into the San Mateo County Juvenile Hall for the same charges. Property seized during the search linked the three suspects the San Mateo robberies, the Burlingame robbery as well as the Belmont robbery.

Questions relating to this robbery series and the subsequent investigation should be directed to the San Mateo Police Department.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 8/12/11 Time: 1725hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 8/12/11 Time: 1725hrs

8/18/2011 Hwy 101 Closure - 8/22/2011

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2011

CONTACT: Gilbert Yau, (650) 595-7467

One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – There will be full freeway closures on Southbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo on August 22, 2011. These closures are required to paint the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont. This project is being constructed by the City of Belmont.

Southbound Route 101 will be closed on August 22, 2011 between Hillsdale Boulevard and Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway for 3.5 hours from 1:00 AM to 4:30 AM. The detour for this closure will be Hillsdale Boulevard to El Camino Real to Ralston Avenue.

Detour signs will be posted to direct traffic.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

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Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

8/22/2011 Search Warrant - Burglary Investigation

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Search Warrant - Burglary Investigation**

Case #: 1105-0076

Location: 5700 blk St. Paul Dr, Newark, CA

Date: 8/18/11 Time: 1100hrs

EVENT

Last Thursday, 8/18/11, Belmont Police Detectives, assisted by officers from the Newark and Fremont Police Departments, executed a search warrant on a residence in the 5700 blk of St. Paul Dr in the City of Newark. Belmont investigators obtained the search warrant for the residence as part of their on-going investigation into the almost 30 residential burglaries that have occurred in Belmont, since May. Detectives were lead to the home after their investigation uncovered that stolen property that had been taken during burglaries in Belmont was being sold on the internet, by suspects associated to the residence.

Detectives seized property and evidence from the residence, including laptop computers, cell phones and other personal electronics. In addition Detectives found and seized several driver's licenses, social security cards as well as three firearms, narcotics and cash. Several suspects were detained at the residence and one suspect, Ernesto Granados, age 39, was arrested on a parole violation.

"The execution of this search warrant is not the end, but another step in an on-going and evolving investigation" said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. The fact that suspects in the East Bay were involved in selling stolen property from Belmont and other peninsula cities, points to the reality that crime is regional and inter-agency cooperation like this is essential" Mattei added.

Belmont Detectives are contacting victims to identify property and working with other peninsula law enforcement agencies regarding property and evidence, not connected to Belmont crimes, that was found at the residence.

The Belmont Police Department would like to remind the public that while criminal investigations are important, they occurred after the crime has occurred. Crime prevention is even more important. The public should get to know their neighbors and report suspicious activity when they see it. Specific crime prevention information can be obtained from your local law enforcement agency.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 8/22/11 Time: 1405hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 8/22/11 Time: 1405hrs

8/30/2011 Suspect Arrested After Photographing Neighbor

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident:

Suspect Arrested After Photographing Neighbor

Case #: 1108-0195

Location: 1900 blk Arbor Ave, Belmont

Date: 8/29/11 Time: 0852hrs

EVENT

On Monday, August 29, 2011 @ approx. 9:50AM, Belmont Police responded to a report of a subject photographing a female resident through an open bathroom window in the 1900 blk of Arbor Ave. Upon arrival, officers were told by the adult female victim that she saw a subject taking her picture with a camera phone, through a partially open bathroom window. The suspect, described as a male with a black shirt, fled when he saw that the victim realized she was being photographed. The victim immediately called 9-1-1 and officers were on-scene within a minute.

Officers began an investigation, during which they contacted a neighbor, Evan Chieda, age 36 of Belmont. Chieda was subsequently arrested without incident, on a misdemeanor charge of 647(J)(3)(A) PC – Secretly photographing a person who is fully or partially undressed. Chieda was booked at Belmont PD and the case will be sent to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

At this time there is no indication that Chieda is involved in other similar incidents, but investigators are checking with other Peninsula law enforcement agencies. Chieda is described as a white male adult, approx. 6'4" tall, 190 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes and a beard & mustache (a booking photo of Chieda is available, on the City of Belmont website, www.belmont.gov).

Anyone with information on Chieda or other incidents he may be involved in, is asked to contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.



By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 8/30/11 Time: 0920hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 8/30/11 Time: 0920hrs

9/6/2011 Mail Thief Arrested

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Mail Thief Arrested**
Location: Western Hills Area of Belmont
0912hrs

Case #: 1109-0035
Date: 9/6/11 Time:

EVENT

Today, Belmont Police arrested a 30 yr old Oakland man, for stealing mail from residential mailboxes in the western hills area of Belmont. While the case is still under investigation, the followed is known at this time. On Tuesday, September 06, 2011 @ approx. 9:10AM, Belmont Police received a call from a resident in the 2800 blk of Monte Cresta Dr, reporting that they had just interrupted a suspect who was taking mail from the resident's mailbox. The suspect was last seen fleeing on Monte Cresta Dr in a SUV type vehicle. Officers responded to the area and began a search for the suspect.

At approx. 9:45AM, a resident in the 3300 blk of Plateau Dr, called Belmont Police reporting a theft of mail had just occurred from their residence. Officers responded to that area and at a few minutes later, a resident in the 3300 blk of Lower Lock Av reported that a suspect driving a Silver/Gray van type vehicle had just taken mail from their mailbox. Minutes later, officers stopped the vehicle as it was entering E/B Hwy 92 from Ralston Av. During the traffic stop, officers located numerous items of mail, from multiple Belmont addresses, inside the vehicle. The driver, Jabari Holder, age 30 of Oakland, was subsequently arrested without incident. Holder was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City for theft and possession of stolen property.

Mail taken from a dozen residential mailboxes on Monte Cresta Dr, Plateau Dr, Lower Lock Av, Belmont Canyon Rd, Hillcrest Dr, Upper Lock Av & Reposo Way, was found in Holder's vehicle. Investigators are still going through mail recovered from the vehicle but the number total victims could be as high as 20-25.

"Our officers will be contacting the resident's, whose mail was recovered from Holder's vehicle." "We are also in contact with the Postal Inspectors and working closely with them on this investigation" said Chief Mattei. "I would like to commend the alert residents who called 9-1-1, without them we would have not caught this suspect as quickly as we did" Mattei added.

Approximately half of the mail recovered from Holder's vehicle was not post-marked and had been put out by residents for collection. The Belmont Police want to remind residents that they should never put out-going mail in their mailbox for pick-up, but should use official US Postal Service Mailboxes or go to the Post Office to send mail. Also residents should consider getting a locking mailbox that prevents thieves from taking mail out.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 9/6/11 Time: 1600hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

9/12/2011 2011 California Coastal Clean-Up

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2011

CONTACT: (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

pworks@belmont.gov

2011 California Coastal Cleanup- Belmont Creeks to Bay

Belmont, CA – On Saturday, September 17th, 2011 from 9am to noon join your fellow friends, family, students, service groups, and neighbors to take care of your own environment, show community support, learn about the impacts of litter, and have fun! **Meet in front of Belmont City Hall - One Twin Pines Lane.**

Help minimize our footprint - Bring your own reusable gloves, bucket, and water bottle.

There will be prizes for most creatively decorated bucket/reusable bag, and most unique item found and this year we will be raffling off a Soilsaver Compost Bin.

For more information or to volunteer please contact your site captain Diane Lynn at 650-595-7425 or dlynn@belmont.gov. **For groups of 10 or more, RSVP** to Ana Clayton at pollutionprevention@co.sanmateo.ca.us.

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Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

9/12/2011 Candidate Write-In Information

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2011

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Write-in Candidate Information

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont will hold a General Municipal Election on November 8. Two seats on the five-member Council will be up for election, as is the City Clerk (full-time position) and City Treasurer positions. All seats are four-year terms.

The Elections Code provides for a write-in candidacy period, which will open on Monday, September 12th, and close at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2011. In order to qualify, prospective candidates must file the requisite nomination papers, similar to those filed by previously-qualified candidates.

Nomination papers must be obtained in person by the prospective candidate (not his/her representative) from the City Clerk in Suite 375 at City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.). “Although an appointment to take out nomination papers is not required, it is highly recommended to ensure that I am available to review the paperwork with the candidate. This process can be a little overwhelming, especially for a newcomer,” said Terri Cook, Belmont City Clerk. “I like to sit down and review each document to ensure the prospective candidate is familiar with all of the requirements.” To be a candidate, you must be a registered voter in the City of Belmont at the time you request nomination papers.

It should be noted that qualified write-in candidates will not have a candidate statement published, nor will their name appear on the written ballot, including vote-by-mail ballots. Only those candidates who filed their nomination papers during the regular nomination period will appear on the ballot.

For more information or to make an appointment for obtaining a write-in candidacy nomination packet, please contact the City Clerk’s office at 650-595-7413, or email the City Clerk at tcCook@belmont.gov.

The deadline to register to vote for the November election is October 24.

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Distribution:

The Independent

The San Mateo Times

The San Mateo Daily News

The San Mateo Daily Journal

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. presidents, SMT, PIC, web

City Treasurer

9/28/2011 Belmont Fire Swearing-In

Belmont Fire Department

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2011

CONTACT:

Fire Chief Douglas Fry (650) 595-7483

Police Lt. / PIO Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

New Belmont Fire Department Swearing-in to be held Saturday

Belmont, CA --

On Saturday, October 1, 2011 at 9:00AM, the members of the newly re-formed Belmont Fire Department will be sworn-in during a ceremony at Belmont City Hall.

“We are excited to begin this new chapter for public safety in Belmont” said Belmont Fire Chief Doug Fry. “I want to assure the public that the transition to the new fire department will be seamless and will continue the high level of service that the residents of Belmont expect and deserve” Fry continued.

The members of the new department, three Battalion Chiefs, six Captains and 15 Firefighters will be sworn in the City Council Chambers at Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, in Belmont on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at 9:00AM. A reception will follow the swearing-in.

The Belmont Fire Department staffs two fire stations and provides fire and paramedic services to the City of Belmont and the adjacent unincorporated area. The department has two engines, a 100-foot aerial ladder and is also the Hazardous Materials response agency for San Mateo County. “We are an all-risk department, and our personnel are very familiar with the community and have a great deal of training and experience in hazardous materials response” said Fire Chief Fry. The staff of the Belmont Fire Department comes from the ranks of the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department, which provided Haz-Mat services to San Mateo County since 1984.

#

9/29/2011 Belmont's First In-House City Attorney

**NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 29, 2011

CONTACT: Greg Scoles – (650) 595-7408

Scott M. Rennie Appointed as Belmont's First In-House City Attorney

Belmont, CA --

Mayor Coralin Feierbach announced today that the City Council has appointed Scott M. Rennie as the new City Attorney for the City of Belmont. "I was particularly impressed with the range and depth of his experience," said Feierbach. "The fact that he serves as a Planning Commissioner for his City shows his involvement in the community." The City of Belmont has long been contracting out city attorney services but the Council voted earlier in the year to hire its first in-house City Attorney.

Mr. Rennie comes to Belmont from the City of Fremont where he has served as Senior Deputy City Attorney II since 2007. He started as the Senior Deputy City Attorney I in January 2002. Prior to joining Fremont, Rennie worked at the City and County of San Francisco City Attorney's Office as Deputy City Attorney for its Trial Team and Code Enforcement Team. He also worked in the private sector as Associate Attorney in Government Contracts Practice Group. Rennie possesses a Juris Doctor with Distinction from Mc George School of Law, University of the Pacific and a Bachelor of Science degree from Princeton University.

The City's new City Attorney has been practicing law for fourteen years, thirteen of which as a municipal lawyer, and has experience across a broad range of issues important to cities. His expertise is in the areas of police, fire, planning and code enforcement, just to name a few. He is also known as an expert in red light cameras. Rennie serves as a Planning Commissioner for the City of San Leandro and serves as Public Service Volunteer for the Alameda County Courts.

Mr. Rennie is enthused about the opportunity to joining the City of Belmont. Rennie said, "I am elated that the City Council has chosen to bestow on me the honor and privilege of being Belmont's first in-house City Attorney. I eagerly await getting started and serving the Council, the staff, and the citizens of Belmont."

Mayor Feierbach and the City Council appointed Scott Rennie to the position effective October 3, 2011.

###

Distribution:

The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
The Independent/Examiner
Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. presidents, web, employees

10/5/2011 Belmont Police & Fire Dept launch Belmont Public Safety Channel on YouTube

Belmont Public Safety

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**Belmont Police and Fire Departments
Launch Belmont Public Safety Channel on YouTube**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police and Fire Departments are pleased to announce the launch of the Belmont Public Safety Channel on YouTube.

The YouTube channel will be used to showcase videos dealing with crime prevention, fire safety and emergency preparedness. "After this summer's rash of residential and vehicle burglaries we wanted a way to show the public what kind of activity they should be calling us about" said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. The channel's first video is "When and Why to Call the Police."

Belmont Police and Fire are separate departments within the City but have combined administrative functions. "This arrangement allowed us to develop this idea together and will lead to other cooperative efforts to improve public safety in Belmont" said Fire Chief Doug Fry. "We want to make this type of safety information more accessible to the public in an easy to use, and hopefully entertaining format" Fire Chief Fry added.

This is not Belmont's first use of high-tech media for outreach to the community. "Belmont PD has been on Twitter for about a year and currently have over 625 followers" said Police Chief Mattei. It is important that we communicate with the public using formats they want to use, including YouTube. Fire Chief Fry and I feel it just continues Belmont Public Safety's Tradition of Service" added Police Chief Mattei.

A link to the new public safety channel can be found on the City of Belmont website. Go to www.belmont.gov and click on Watch us on YouTube on the Police Department homepage.

#

10/7/2011 BPOA MOU - No Pay Increase & New Lower Pension Tier

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2011

CONTACT: Greg Scoles – (650) 595-7410

No Pay Increase and New Lower Pension Tier

Belmont, CA – At the City Council meeting on October 11, 2011, the Belmont City Council is scheduled to approve a labor agreement between the Belmont Police Officer's Association (BPOA) and the City of Belmont. After four months of negotiations, both parties have agreed to terms that offer financial sustainability for the City and fair and competitive salary and benefits to its employees/BPOA members.

BPOA labor leaders understood the City needed help from its membership to share in the rising cost of medical and pension costs. City leaders are very pleased with the outcome and greatly appreciate the union agreeing to contribute towards costs that had been previously paid for by the City.

Some of the cost saving efforts include a three year labor contract that provides no pay increase during the term of the contract; a lower pension tier –3% @55 for new hires; all safety employees to contribute an additional 3% (employer share) toward the PERS pension cost in the 3rd year of the agreement; 2% for miscellaneous employees; a defined contribution retiree medical plan for new employees. In addition, there is no longer a sick leave cash out upon resignation. BPOA also agreed to the continuation of furloughs for the next two fiscal years and the ability to meet regarding furloughs for a third year should the City face economic challenges.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This is an excellent example of labor and management working together to resolve the very real problem of increasing pension and benefit costs. Management and labor had similar interests in reaching an agreement that is both fair and financially sustainable and this agreement does just that."

The City of Belmont has two other labor contracts with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and Mid-Management Confidential Employees Association (MMCEA) expiring in June 30, 2012 and negotiations will begin in late winter.

###

Distribution:

The Independent/Examiner
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, Web, Employees

10/11/2011 Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest

Belmont Police Department

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

Belmont Police Announce Annual Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department is inviting kindergarten through 8th Grade students, enrolled in any public or private school in Belmont or the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District, to participate in the 2011 Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest.

The goal of the contests is to symbolize the importance of living an alcohol, drug and violent free healthy lifestyle. Entries will be divided into separate groups based on grade level and there will be one winner from each group. Posters will be judged on art work reflecting the theme, creativity, effort, and grammar. The theme of this year's contest is ***"It's up to me to be drug free."*** Examples of posters can be a drawing, painting, poem, or collage. Entries must be delivered to the front office of the student's school or at the Belmont Police Department, 1 Twin Pines Ln. Belmont by 4 pm on Tuesday, October 18, 2011.

Student winners will be honored at the City of Belmont council meeting on October 25, 2011. Winners will be invited to a pizza party following the ceremony. Winning art work will be displayed inside Belmont City Hall along with a Red Ribbon Week recognition plaque

"We want to encourage our youth to adopt health life styles and this includes avoiding becoming involved with drug and violence" said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "I invite every K-8 student to participate in this event. Show how you are making the right choice to be drug free" Mattei added.

Now in its 26th year, Red Ribbon Week is the largest and oldest drug prevention campaign, reaching 80 million people nationwide. The National Family Partnership (NFP) created the campaign in response to the 1985 death of DEA agent Kiki Camarena, who was abducted and murdered by drug traffickers in Mexico.

Students can get a copy of the contest rules and a poster form, at their school office or by going to the Police Department homepage on the City of Belmont website at www.belmont.gov.

#

10/12/2011 Bay Area Red Cross to Present New Disaster Mental Health Course in Belmont

Belmont Public Safety
Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 12, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**Bay Area Red Cross to Present
New Disaster Mental Health Course in Belmont**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police & Fire Departments would like to invite the public to a new 4-hour mental health program, being introduced by the Red Cross, designed to give people tools to help themselves and their neighbors with the effects of a crisis or disaster. The program, called *Neighbor to Neighbor* will be held on Monday, October 17th from Noon to 4 PM at the Twin Pines Senior & Community Center, 20 Twin Pines Lane, in Belmont

Neighbor to Neighbor is designed to teach residents how to cope with life's everyday stressors, how to recognize those same stress factors in neighbors and loved ones and how to lend support. It's one small way for neighbors to help neighbors in a time of community crisis.

The program is part of the Red Cross's on-going efforts to link residents with community resources. The Red Cross class also contains specific elements on how to help people recognize stress in children and provides information on ways adults can help children cope. The Red Cross has been developing the course for the past several months and it was first launched in the Gulf region. The Bay Area is the third area to take advantage of this opportunity.

"This mental health course builds on assistance that Red Cross has been providing for a long time" said Belmont Fire Chief Doug Fry.

To register for this course, the public can go to the front desk at the Belmont Senior & Community Center or by calling 650-595-7444.

For more information or to discuss how to implement this program in your community, please contact the Bay Area Red Cross at 650-588-0940 or email kelleyj@usa.redcross.org

10/14/2011 Officer Injured in Dog Attack

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Officer Injured in Dog Attack** Case #: 1110-0064

Location: 2300 blk Coronet Blvd, Belmont Date: 10/13/11 Time: 1731hrs

On Thursday, October 13, 2011 a Belmont Police officer was injured responding to an irate man in the 2300 block of Coronet Blvd, when the officer was attacked by the man's dog. The officer had to shoot the dog to stop the attack.

Officers responded to the home at approx. 5:30pm, after several neighbors called 9-1-1 reporting the sounds of yelling and glass breaking from the residence. When officers arrived they heard yelling a loud music coming from inside the house. Officers contacted a 30 yr old male resident of the home, who was detained.

As an officer was attempting to locate other occupants, "Magnum" a 6 yr old German Shepherd ran out of the house & charged the officer. The officer was able to fend off the dog's initial attack, but the dog charged the officer a second time, where the dog bit into the officer's leg. At this point the officer was forced to defend himself and shot the dog once with his service pistol. The dog later died.

The officer was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department Paramedics and was transported to San Mateo County Medical Center. The officer was treated at the hospital and later released. Another adult occupant of the home was also bitten by the dog during the incident, but declined medical aid.

There were no arrests and the incident is under investigation by the Belmont Police Department.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 10/14/11 Time: 1200hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 10/14/11 Time: 1200hrs

10/14/2011 Highway 101 Closure

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2011

CONTACT: Gilbert Yau, (650) 595-7467
One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – There will be full freeway closure on Northbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo on October 19, 2011. The closure is required to install fences for the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont. This project is being constructed by the City of Belmont.

Northbound Route 101 will be closed on October 19, 2011 between Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway and Hillsdale Boulevard for 3.5 hours from 12:30 AM to 4:00 AM. The detour for this closure will be Ralston Avenue East to El Camino Real to Hillsdale Boulevard.

Detour signs will be posted to direct traffic.

Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

10/17/2011 5th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2011

CONTACT: Joni Stallings – (650) 595-7408

5th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program

Belmont, CA - The City of Belmont City Council proudly announces the upcoming 5th Annual presentation of the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 13th at 7:30 PM and is calling for any nominations from the community in both Residential and Commercial categories.

This recognition program is designed to acknowledge individuals, businesses, and community groups who have enhanced the community by making significant exterior improvements to their Belmont properties. Eligible improvements include the enhancement, upgrading, reconstruction, or replacement of a property, making it more visually appealing as well as enriching the surrounding neighborhood or district.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This program is an excellent opportunity to let the community know how much the City appreciates their effort to help make Belmont one of the most beautiful communities on the Peninsula."

For more information on the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program, to submit a nomination, or to obtain a nomination form, please call the City Manager's office at 595-7408 or look on the City of Belmont website at www.belmont.gov.

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Distribution:

The Independent
The San Mateo Times
The San Mateo Daily News
The San Mateo Daily Journal
Council, Commissioners,
Chamber of Commerce, SMT, PIC, web

10/18/2011 Highway 101 Closure - Cancelled Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

News

For Immediate Release

October 18, 2011

CONTACT: Gilbert Yau, (650) 595-7467
One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002
Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure Cancelled- Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – The full freeway closure scheduled for tonight on Northbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo has been cancelled. The fence installation for the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont is postponed to next week. New public notifications will be sent before end of the week.

Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times
The San Mateo Daily Journal
The Daily Post
The Examiner/Independent
Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

10/24/2011 Motel 6 Robbery

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Robbery

Case #: 1110-0124

Location: Motel 6 – 1101 Shoreway Rd, Belmont

Date: 10/24/11

Time: 8:45 AM

EVENT:

This morning Belmont Police officers were called to Motel 6 on the report of a robbery that had just occurred. Though this investigation is ongoing, the following is known at this time:

The victim, who was traveling on business from the east coast, was staying at Motel 6 where he met with a woman in his room described as an Asian in her late 20's- 30's. At one point he was confronted at the door by a second Asian woman (wearing a hooded jacket and blue bandana) and an Asian male in his 20's (NFD). The second woman brandished a small handgun and demanded the victim's laptop computer and camera. The victim refused and attempted to wrestle the gun from the woman. During that struggle the gun may have discharged, but nobody appeared to be hit by gunfire. Also during the struggle, the male suspect punched the victim several times in the face. The victim suffered moderate facial injuries and was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics.

The suspects fled with the victim's laptop computer and camera. No vehicle was seen. With the assistance of surrounding law enforcement agencies, officers scoured the area, but have not yet located the suspects.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650) 595-7400.

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt

Date: 10/24/11 Time: 1130 hrs

10/28/2011 Robbery Suspects Arrested

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Robbery – Suspects Arrested

Case #: 1110-0124

Location: Motel 6 – 1101 Shoreway Rd, Belmont

Date: 10/24/11

Time: 8:45AM

EVENT:

On Monday, 10/24/11 @ approx. 8:45AM, Belmont Police were called to Motel 6 on the report of a robbery that had just occurred. The victim, who was traveling on business from the east coast, was staying at Motel 6 where he met with a woman in his room. At one point he was confronted at the door by an Asian woman (wearing a hooded jacket and blue bandana) and an Asian male in his 20's (NFD). The second woman brandished a small handgun and demanded the victim's laptop computer and camera. The victim refused and attempted to wrestle the gun from the woman. An initial report to police was that during struggle the gun may have discharged, but investigators were unable to corroborate this. Also during the struggle, the male suspect punched the victim several times in the face. The victim suffered moderate facial injuries and was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics. The suspects fled with the victim's laptop computer and camera. No vehicle was seen.

10/28/11 UPDATE:

On Friday, 10/28/11 @ approx. 10:25AM, Belmont Police Detectives contacted two suspects in the 1500 block of Greenwood Ave in San Carlos. The two suspects, Stefanie Kavanaugh age 26, a transient and Josielyn Salgado, age 28 of San Francisco were taken into custody without incident, with the assistance of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office – San Carlos Bureau.

Several items of property which had been taken from the robbery at the motel, were recovered from the suspects at the time of their arrest. The suspects were booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City. Kavanaugh was booked on charges of robbery, possession of stolen property and conspiracy. Salgado was booked on an outstanding warrant for violation of parole.

A third suspect in the robbery, a Filipino male in his 20's is still outstanding and investigators are actively pursuing leads at this time, regarding this suspect. Anyone with information regarding this on-going investigation is asked to contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

***Note:** Questions regarding booking photographs of Kavanaugh and Salgado should be referred to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Authorized by: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 10/28/11 Time: 1630hrs
Date: 10/28/11 Time: 1630hrs

10/28/2011 Highway 101 Closure

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 2011

CONTACT: Leticia Alvarez, (650) 595-7469

One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

Highway 101 Closure - Belmont Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – There will be full freeway closure on Northbound Route 101 between Belmont and San Mateo on October 31, 2011. The closure is required to install fences for the Ralston Avenue Bikeway Overcrossing in Belmont. This project is being constructed by the City of Belmont.

Northbound Route 101 will be closed on October 31, 2011 between Ralston Avenue/Marine Parkway and Hillsdale Boulevard for 4.5 hours from 12:30 AM to 4:00 AM. The detour for this closure will be Ralston Avenue East to El Camino Real to Hillsdale Boulevard.

Detour signs will be posted to direct traffic.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

10/31/2011 Traffic Collision - Auto-Pedestrian

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Traffic Collision –Auto/Pedestrian

Case #: 1110-0170

Location: Middle Rd & Notre Dame Av, Belmont.
8:50AM

Date: 10/31/11 Time:

EVENT

On Monday, October 31, 2011 @ approx 8:50AM, Belmont Police and Fire responded to a reported auto-pedestrian collision in the intersection of Middle Rd & Notre Dame Av. Upon arrival, officers found that a 69 yr old San Mateo man and his female pit-bull mix had been crossing Middle Rd, when they were struck by a 2001 Dodge pick-up driven by a 58 yr old Belmont resident, who was turning from S/B Notre Dame Av onto E/B Middle Rd.

The pedestrian was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The man's dog was transported by family members, to an area veterinary hospital where it later succumbed to its injuries.

The pedestrian and his dog were in a marked crosswalk when they were struck. While the cause of the collision is still under investigation, speed does not appear to be a factor.

The Belmont Police Department would like to remind all motorists that it is important to be alert for both pedestrians and bicyclists while on the road. "This is especially important tonight, as its Halloween and numerous children and adults will be out trick-or-treating", said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Daylight savings time ends next week, and it will be getting dark earlier in the day, which adds to the reasons to be alert and drive defensively", Mattei added.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 10/31/11 Time: 1050hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 10/31/11 Time: 1050hrs

11/7/2011 Fugitive Arrested After Foot Chase

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Fugitive Arrested After Foot Chase	Case #: 1111-0038
Location: 800 blk El Camino, Belmont	Date: 11/7/11 Time: 0946hrs

EVENT

On Monday, November 7, 2011 at approx. 9:45am, Belmont Police responded to a frantic 9-1-1 call from a shop in the 800 blk of El Camino, requesting the police for an unknown disturbance. Upon arrival, officers found that several merchandise displays had been knocked over during an argument between the business owner and his 17 yr old son. Officers also learned that the suspect, whose name is being withheld due to his age, was wanted on an outstanding arrest warrant and had fled as officers were arriving at the store.

Officers began a search for the suspect and at approx. 10:15am, he was spotted near El Camino & Ralston Ave. When officers attempted to contact the suspect, he fled and attempted to run south across Ralston Ave in an effort to evade officers. As the suspect darted into the street, he was struck by a 2000 Jaguar, which was being driven by a 75 yr old Belmont woman. In spite of being struck by a car, the suspect got up and continued to run through traffic and into the business district on the south side of Ralston Ave. The driver of the car was not injured in the collision.

The chase ended a short time later, when the suspect was located attempting to hide behind a dumpster in a parking lot between Ralston & Emmett Aves. Officers attempted to take the suspect into custody once again, but the suspect resisted and officers used a Taser to gain control of the suspect. He was subsequently arrested without further incident.

The suspect was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and transported to an area hospital for injuries he sustained when he was struck by the car. After being cleared by medical staff, the suspect was booked into the San Mateo County Juvenile Hall on the outstanding warrant and a charge of resisting arrest.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 11/7/11 Time: 1500hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 11/7/11 Time: 1500hrs

11/8/2011 First Ever Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System Wednesday,
November 9

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2011

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**First Ever Nationwide Test of
Emergency Alert System Wednesday November 9**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police and Fire Departments would like to remind residents watching television or listening to the radio on the morning of Wednesday, November 9, that they will hear the first-ever nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System.

The 11:00AM test will provide local, state and federal authorities the opportunity to ensure vital safety information can be communicated from the nation's capital to the public via television and radio broadcasters and cable operators.

No action will be needed on the part of the public. The test will look very much like standard emergency alerts and will begin with three tones and the words, "This is a test."

Federal officials will initiate the three and half minute test from Washington, D.C. and it will activate Emergency Alert System across the nation. Once the test is completed, regular programming will resume and broadcasters, cable, and satellite providers will provide the FCC with details of their participation.

Quick Facts:

- Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.
- You will hear the familiar Emergency Alert System tone and a voice say "this is a test," and potentially see a message on your television • It will last less than 4 minutes • No action is needed or required on the part of the public

Although the public is not required to take any action during the test, San Mateo County officials recommend residents to take the opportunity to review their own emergency plans and to update emergency supplies. County officials also urged residents to sign up for to receive local emergency alerts at www.SMCAAlert.info

SMC ALERT is an alert notification system used to immediately contact you during urgent or emergency situations with useful information and updates by sending text messages to your e-mail accounts and cell phones, smartphones and other hand-held devices. *For Additional Information Contact:* San Mateo County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services, (650) 363-4955.

11/14/2011 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Belmont's U.S. 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2011

CONTACT: (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, www.belmont.gov

pworks@belmont.gov

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Belmont's U.S. 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Belmont, CA – The City of Belmont invites the community to join in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the opening of the Belmont's Pedestrian/Bike Bridge over U.S. Freeway 101. The new bridge will be a safe means to cross over the freeway for access to the Sports Complex, Bay Trail, and Redwood Shores. The ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2011. The Sports Complex is located at 550 Island Parkway in Belmont near Ralston Ave.

To kick off the ceremonies there will be number of speakers representing local and State partners who have helped with the successful funding and construction completion of this project. Also, there will be free bicycle safety checks performed by Performance Bicycle-San Mateo, raffle for gift certificates donated by California Sports & Cyclery, and great give-a-ways from local partners/sponsors such as Jake Bursalyan-State Farm, Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org), and Pilgrims Kitchen.

Please join us in celebrating the opening of this bridge, as the Scouts and Carlmont High School Drum line kick off the ceremony of what will be a great community asset.

For further information please contact the City of Belmont website at: www.belmont.gov or call: (650) 595-7425.

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Distribution:

The San Mateo County Times

The San Mateo Daily Journal

The Daily Post

The Examiner/Independent

Council, Commissioners, Chamber, Neighborhood Assoc. Presidents, SMT, PIC, web

11/15/2011 Theft Suspect Arrested

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Theft Suspect Arrested
Location: 500 blk Ralston Ave, Belmont

Case #: 1111-0077
Date: 11/15/11 Time: 0406hrs

EVENT

On Tuesday, November 15, 2011, shortly after 4:00am, a Belmont Police officer on patrol contacted a subject in the 500 blk of Ralston Ave. The subject, Jesse Salgado age 18 of Menlo Park, was found to be under the influence of a controlled substance and was arrested. Officers found a GPS unit on Salgado at the time of his arrest and after investigation, found that the GPS had been taken from a parked vehicle in the 400 blk of Ralston Ave.

Further investigation linked Salgado to the theft of a camera from another parked vehicle, as well as the attempted theft of the vehicle itself, in the 100 blk of Ralston Ave. Salgado was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City on charges of attempted auto-theft and possession of stolen property. Other charges, including being under the influence of a controlled substance, are pending.

Belmont Police detectives are continuing to follow-up on these cases and are also looking to see if Salgado is involved in any other similar crimes. The Belmont Police would like to remind the public to lock their vehicles when they are parked on the street or in their driveway. "Both of the vehicles in this case had been left unlocked," said Police Chief Don Mattei. "Securing your property against theft is an important step in keeping our community safe." Mattei added.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

***Note:** Questions regarding a booking photograph of Salgado should be referred to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 11/15/11 Time: 1635hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt
Date: 11/15/11 Time: 1635hrs

11/18/2011 Belmont police Lieutenant Receives Attorney General Award Recongnizing 28 Years of Service with The Belmont Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2011

CONTACT: **Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430**

**Belmont Police Lieutenant Receives Attorney General Award
Recognizing 28 Years of Service with the Belmont Police Department**

Belmont, CA --

On Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at a meeting of law enforcement leaders from Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara & Santa Cruz Counties, California Attorney General Kamala Harris presented the Attorney General Awards for Law Enforcement Officers. One of this year's recipients was Belmont Police Lieutenant Kevin Daley, who will be retiring in December, recognizing his 28 years of service with the Belmont Police Department.

"Since 1984 Kevin Daley has been a consummate leader for the men and women of the Belmont Police Department. From his early years as a Reserve Police Officer and Patrol Officer, to his senior positions as Lieutenant and SWAT Commander, Kevin has always set a standard for others to follow. He does so with a passionate commitment to his community and with a genuine caring for those that he leads." said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Next month, after serving the residents of Belmont for 28 years, Kevin will retire, knowing the satisfaction of a job well done and the pride that he leaves behind an organization that will carry on his professional values for generations to come." Mattei added.

11/28/2011 Suspicious Circumstances

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Suspicious Circumstance

Case #: 1111-0117

Location: John Brooks Trail

Date: 11/24/11

Time: Approx 3:40 am

EVENT

On Thursday, November 24, 2011, at approximately 3:40 am, two citizens, who live in the area of Wakefield Dr and Elder Dr, reported that they heard the sound of several gun shots and people talking in a heavily wooded area near the Belmont Open Space Trail System. The area where the gun shots were heard was determined to be in a canyon behind these two streets.

Belmont Police Officers and San Mateo County Sheriffs Deputies responded to the area and also heard the sound of several gun shots and what sounded like two males talking in an area near John Brooks Trail. One entry to this trail starts on Somerset Dr at Wakefield Dr.

Officers on scene verbally identified themselves as Police Officers. At that time, the gun shots and talking had stopped. The area behind the residences was searched with negative results. Additionally, the area was checked for suspicious vehicles and people with negative results. Another search along John Brooks Trail was conducted in the morning at approximately 7:30 am. There was no evidence located, no injuries were reported, and no damage to any property was found.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400.

By: Corporal Lewis

Date: 11/24/11 Time: 1030hrs

Authorized By: Sergeant Pitts

Date: 11/24/11 Time: 1030hrs

12/5/2011 Fish and Game Deer Study

Belmont Police Department Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2011 CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
(650) 595-7430

Reminder - Fish & Game in Western Belmont Conducting Study to Track Deer near Hwy 280

Belmont, CA --

This is to remind Belmont residents, particularly those living in the Hallmark area and near the watershed, that the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and UC Davis (UCD) are conducting a study that involves capturing deer near Hwy 280, between Woodside and Hwy 92. The initial capture of deer began on Friday Dec 2nd and will continue through next Sunday, December, 11th. The study is being conducted in an effort to learn how to reduce deer-vehicle collisions along Hwy 280, by tracking deer movements and territory.

DFG and UCD researchers are using tranquilizer dart guns and walk-in net traps. The dart guns are rifles fitted with scopes. After being tranquilized, the deer will be fitted with radio collars to track their movements and then released. Personnel involved in this study will be in DFG uniforms (tan shirt with insignia, green pants) and will be driving marked vehicles. They will be accessing the watershed area from both Hwy 280 and the Hallmark neighborhood during the week.

12/6/2011 City Hall Closure

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Traffic Collision-Solo Vehicle into Tree	Case #: 1112-0034
Location: Ralston Ave & Granada St, Belmont	Date: 11/6/11 Time: 0925hrs

EVENT

On Tuesday, December 6, 2011 @ approx. 9:25AM, Belmont Police and Fire units responded to a report of a vehicle that had collided with a tree, at the intersection of Ralston Ave & Granada St.

Upon arrival, officers found that a blue 1998 Ford Taurus, driven by a 29 year old San Mateo man, had collided with a tree on a traffic island. The driver was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and was transported to an area hospital, with non life threatening injuries. No other vehicles were involved in the collision.

While the cause of the collision is still under investigation, officers believe that the driver, who was traveling eastbound on Ralston Ave, appears to have had a medical emergency, which cause him to loose control of the vehicle and leave the roadway, colliding with the tree.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 12/6/11 Time: 1230hrs

Authorized By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 12/6/11 Time: 1230hrs

12/6/2011 Traffic Collision Solo Vehicle Into Tree

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Traffic Collision-Solo Vehicle into Tree	Case #: 1112-0034
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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran
Date: 12/6/11 Time: 1230hrs

Authorized By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 12/6/11 Time: 1230hrs

12/12/2011 Fatal Traffic Collision

BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: Fatal Traffic Collision – Auto / Pedestrian	Case #:1112-0067
Location: 900 Block Ralston Ave, Belmont	Date: 12/11/11 Time: 1735 hrs

EVENT

Tonight December 11, 2011 @ approx. 5:35 PM, Belmont Police and Fire Dept units responded to a report of a vehicle that had collided with a pedestrian in the 900 block of Ralston Ave.

Upon arrival, officers found that a middle aged woman had been struck by a 1983 Chevrolet driven by a 20 year old Belmont man. The woman suffered fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the Chevrolet stopped immediately and is cooperating with the investigation. There is no indication that drugs or alcohol were a factor.

While the cause of the collision is still under investigation, it appears that the woman was struck while attempting to cross Ralston Ave. There is no crosswalk where the collision occurred. Potential witnesses are encouraged to contact the Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400.

By: Capt. Dan DeSmidt
Date: 12/11/11 Time: 1930hrs

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei
Date: 12/11/11 Time: 1930hrs

12/13/2011 Belmont Police to Conduct Pedestrian Safety Operation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2011

CONTACT:

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

Belmont Police to Conduct Pedestrian Safety Operation

Belmont, CA --

In an effort to raise the awareness of both drivers and pedestrians, the Belmont Police Department will be conducting a Pedestrian Safety Operation on Wednesday, December 14, 2011. The operation will be conducted between 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM at several locations in Belmont.

“This operation was planned prior to last Sunday evening’s fatal auto-pedestrian collision and is intended to point out the need for both drivers and pedestrians to be alert.” “Next week begins the holiday break for most schools and there will be increased pedestrian activity in and around the shopping areas in Belmont” said Police Chief Don Mattei. However, last Sunday’s tragedy makes this operation even more significant” Chief Mattei added.

Police will be using two different approaches during the operation. The first is focused at drivers and involves the use of pedestrian decoys, where police personnel in plain clothes will be used to cross the roadways in marked crosswalks, while motorcycle officers will watch for pedestrian right of way violations. Motorists failing to yield the right of way to the pedestrian will be stopped and may be issued a citation under section 21950 of the California Vehicle Code.

Officers will also be looking for pedestrians who cross in an unsafe manner and create a hazard to traffic. “The pedestrian who was struck and killed on Ralston Ave last Sunday was crossing in an area where there was no marked crosswalk” said Police Chief Don Mattei. “While the investigation is still on-going, we believe that where the pedestrian chose to cross played a significant role in that collision” Chief Mattei added.

The department will carry out enforcement of pedestrian right of way violations on a continuous basis and will continue to work on improving safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and the motoring public.

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12/14/2011 Woman Rescued after Elevator Accident

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2011

CONTACT:

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

Woman Rescued After Elevator Accident

Belmont, CA --

On Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at approx. 4:50pm, Belmont Fire and Police units responded to a report of an elevator collapse, with a woman inside, at the Leslie Terrace Senior Living Facility at 2400 Carlmont Dr.

The victim, a 67 year old resident who uses a motorized power chair for mobility, was found inside the central elevator on the second floor. She told emergency personnel that she had entered the elevator on the third floor and as it started to descend, the elevator began to free fall. The elevator's decent was apparently stopped, just prior to the second floor, by the elevator's automatic emergency brake system. When the elevator stopped, the victim was thrown from her chair, onto the floor.

The victim was extricated from the elevator by Belmont Firefighters and was transported to an area hospital by paramedics, with non-life threatening injuries.

The elevator will remain out of service pending an inspection.

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